

Country Life—January 2, 1953

THE REGENT'S PARK COLOSSEUM

COUNTRY LIFE

On Sale Friday
JANUARY 2, 1953

TWO SHILLINGS



ROBIN HOOD'S BAY, NEAR WHITBY, YORKSHIRE

Leslie Neil

classified properties

AUCTIONS

BOURNEMOUTH.

"DURLSTON."

41, GLENFERNESS AVENUE, An attractive, compact, modern, Freehold residence occupying an excellent position on the well-known Talbot Woods Estate, within easy reach of sea and shops. 5 bedrooms (fitted basins), bathroom, 3 reception rooms, excellent domestic offices. Garage. Delightful garden. To Auction January 22 next, if un-sold in meantime. Possession. For particulars:

FOX & SONS

Auctioneers, 44/52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth.

SOUTH DORSET

Eight medium-sized country properties near coast for Sale by Auction in Lots shortly. All vacant possession. Very reasonable reserves. Bids, particulars (price 1s. 6d. each) from:

REBECK BROS.

The Square, Bournemouth (Tel. Bm. 3481-2).

FOR SALE

Town Houses

A SMALL MAYFAIR Mews Residence between Park Lane and Grosvenor Square immediately available. Plans prepared for conversion to unique and luxurious residence comprising 6 rooms, kitchen, bathroom, maid's quarters, garage, etc. 83 years lease at only £75 per annum for sale. Will accept £10,500. Apply sole agents: DUDLEY SAMUEL & HARRISON, LTD., 11, Bruton Street, Berkeley Square, W.1. MAYfair 7111.

Country Houses

A CHARMING Freehold detached Georgian Residence with every modern convenience, pleasant walled garden, perfectly secluded although situated in the middle of Knighton. Vacant possession. Particulars from JOHN NORTON, F.R.A., Estate Agent and Auctioneer, Imperial Chambers, Ludlow (Tel. 70), Bromfield (Tel. 228).

BOGNOR AND AREA. Houses, bungalows from £2,000 to £10,000. Car available for viewing.—H. R. J. GILBEY, F.A.I.P.A., Incorporated Auctioneer, Surveyor and Valuer, 50, Upper Bognor Road, Feham, Tel.: Bognor 1928.

DORSET'S Cheapest Country House. Executors' Sale. In beautiful well-timbered park of about 114 acres. 3 rec.; 6 bed. (no attic); bathroom, kitchen, tennis court, Range of glasshouses, garages and other extensive outbuildings. Main services. About 25 miles Bournemouth, near the coast. A gift at £5,500. Photos, etc., from Sole Agents: REBECKS, Square, Bournemouth.

HANTS SURREY border, 35 miles south-west of London, excellent communications, exceptional labour-saving house in 14 acres attractive garden, 2 storeys only, 12 rooms (basins in 5), 2 bathrooms, central heating, garage, outbuildings, all main services. Freehold £7,750.—Box 6493.

HEREFORDSHIRE. Several choice convenient sized Country Properties with from 5 to 50 acres grassland and all modern amenities available with possession at moderate prices.—H. B. EVANS, Land Agent and Valuer, Churchstoke, Mont.

IRELAND. BATTERSBY & Co., Estate Agents (Est. 1815), F.A.I., Westmorland Street, Dublin. Sporting Properties and Residential Farms available sale or letting.

LLANYSTUDWY, nr. Criccieth, adjoining Lloyd George's old school, for Sale with Vacant Possession. "The Crown," charming small house on edge of village with 5 beds, w.c., main water, electricity, and drains. Eminently suitable guest house/tea gardens. Large garden, garage, outbuilding.—Apply the Agent, The Estate Office, Gwyn-fryn, Criccieth. Tel.: Criccieth 222.

18TH-CENTURY GEORGIAN FREEHOLD RESIDENCE including original features in delightful South Devon country town. 2 reception rooms, kitchen, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, w.c. and 2 small attics with small walled garden, consisting of lawn, flower borders and small vegetable space with fruit trees. £5,500.—Particulars from J. H. WILLS & Co., Auctioneers, 15a, Courtenay Street, Newton Abbot, Tel. 67.

BEFORE BUYING a Property or Farm it is well to have a survey and confidential report on value and condition by THE FARM AND ESTATE BUREAU, Consultants, Yeovil. Tel.: 823.

COMPANY REGISTRATIONS FOR SALE

CO. REGNS. FOR SALE, £25 each complete (with seal, Stat. books). Building; jewellery; food; property; import/export; general dealers; trust investment. No trading. Others with agreed Income Tax losses.—Business Econ. (C.I.), 128, Abney Street, London, N.W.1 (BUS. 8308/8178).

ESTATES, FARMS AND SMALLHOLDINGS FOR SALE

ADJACENT SUSSEX DOWNS. T.T. attested farm, 85 acres fertile land. Beautifully appointed house, 4 bed., 4 recep., 3 bath, c/h., 2 cottages, splendid buildings.—Box 6500.

HEYTHROP HUNT, COTSWOLDS. The Stone House Estate, Nether Swell, near Stow-on-the-Wold; an exceptional small freehold Residential and Agricultural Property, comprising a manor-type residence with 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, lounge-hall, 3 reception rooms, kitchen and domestic quarters. Pleasure gardens and grounds, hunter stabling of six loose boxes, double garage, four cottages, small modern farmery, pasture and arable land, in all about 50 acres. For Sale by Private Treaty with possession by arrangement.—Particulars from the Sole Agents: Messrs. TAYLER AND FLETCHER, Stow-on-the-Wold, Glos.

PEMBROKESHIRE. 2 miles Pembroke. Attractive Freehold Residential, Agricultural and Sporting Property. Queen Anne residence, 2 halls, 4 reception, billiard room, 8 principal and 8 other bedrooms and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms. Lawns, pond, woodlands, enclosed yard, Agricultural farm buildings, gardens, and 3 lodges. In 260 acres. House and 171 acres in hand, 89 acres let.—For illustrated particulars a plan (1/-) apply: J. A. ROSE, F.A.I., Chartered Auctioneer and Estate Agent, M. Street, Pembroke.

S. CORNWALL. A fine T.T. attested Farm (60 acres), fully modernised farmhouse, commanding lovely sea views. Apply: STOCKTON & LUMSTEAD, Mawn Porth, Cornwall. Ref.: 2033.

SUFFOLK ESSEX BORDER. In lovely old village on fringe of Constaton country—10 miles Colchester. Exceptionally attractive residential arable and stock farm of 100 acres with outstanding Tudor farmhouse having lofty rooms, excellently pointed and maintained. Spacious hall, 6 panelled lounge, 2 other rec., cloaks, modern kitchen with Aga and central heating boiler, 6 bed., luxury bathroom, etc. Main electric automatic water supply, modern drains. Charming informal garden. Fine range brick buildings. Cottage (det). The redeems no land tax; rates at £25 a year £9,750 Fr. hold with vac. poss. (Ref. 1003). Photo H. J. TURNER & SON, F.A.I., Sudbury Suffolk. (Tel. 2833/4).

WANTED

WANTED TO BUY, or rent on lease, early spring, house 15-25 miles London 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 or 3 reception rooms (one large), modern kitchen, central heating, garage 2 cars. Garden not too large must be maintained inexpensively. House must be within easy quick rail journey London Bridge. Please state lowest price, rent.—Box 6488.

WANTED URGENTLY. Within 7 miles west or north-west of London Superior residential Property with 8 beds 3-4 bath, 4 reception, etc., in good repair. Garage, stabling, 2 cottages and some pasture. Main services and central heating preferred. Price up to £15,000. Usual commission required.—Particulars and photograph for special applicant: R.G.F.A., c/o HEWITT AND CO., F.A.I., High Street, Lymington Tel. 26.

TO LET

Furnished

ARGYLL (Lochawe), comfortable Lodge accessible, to let furnished. Immediate possession. Convenient size. Good hot water supply. Nice garden. Shooting and fishing available.—Particulars from D. M. McKEE & SON, Solicitors, Oban (Tel. 2113).

ATTRACTIVE small Georgian House, Apt. 1—May 9. Every convenience. Pretty garden. Help available. Reasonable.—Box 6487.

CHICHESTER (near). Very well furnished country house, 5 beds (basins), 2 bath, 3 rec., Esse, paddock, garage.—Box 6495.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE. Newly converted, self-contained luxuriously appointed Flat, suit 2 people; telephone; refrigerator, etc. Long or short term, 15 gns.—Box 6505.

Unfurnished

LIANDRINDOD WELLS, Rads. Splendidly situated, recently converted self-contained Flats from £2 2s. to £4 per week; all main services. Full particulars: CAMPBELL & EDWARDS, Estate Agents, Liandrindod Wells. (Tel. 2245-6).

S. IRELAND. To let, attractive unfurnished 3 mews cottage, 2 reception, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen, garage, etc., modern fittings throughout. Small garden. Country surroundings. Town and main line station 5 min. walk. Centre sporting country.—Box 6496.

MORTGAGES

MORTGAGES.—Large Funds available for Mortgages on good class agricultural and residential properties in any district.—H. B. EVANS, Surveyor and Valuer, Churchstoke, Mont.

WANTED TO RENT

TO RENT, unfurnished by a country lover near coast, Cornwall or Devon, but not isolated—a small house or cottage, but not low rooms, advertiser being very tall, modern conveniences. For one lady. A little place on an estate would be ideal. Imperative that it is a healthy part and lots of sun.—Reply Box 6485.

WEST SUFFOLK area. House to rent, might buy if really suits requirements. 3 reception, 4-5 bedrooms, main services. Not lonely.—Box 6494.

OVERSEAS PROPERTIES

For Sale

SOUTHERN RHODESIA. For development of 75,000-acre ranch, capital of £65,000 required. Situated in best ranching area. Good rainfall. Well watered from large permanent river. Excellent tobacco and maize soils. These crops give immediate good return on capital outlay. Particulars from RHODESIAN FARMS & ESTATE AGENCY, LTD., Box 727, Salisbury, S. Rhodesia. Cables: "Farmus."

ESTATE AGENTS

DORSET AND SOMERSET. PETER SHERSTON & WYLAM, Sherborne (Tel. 61). Properties of character, Surveys, Valuations.

EAST DEVON COAST AND COUNTRY. Properties of all types.—THOMAS SANDERS & STAFF, Sidmouth (Tel. 343), and Axminster (Tel. 3341).

ENGLISH LAKES. Auctioneers, Valuers, Land Agents and Surveyors, Est. 1841.—PROCTOR & BURDECK, Lake Road, Windermere (Tel. 688), and at Lancaster and London.

ESSEX AND SUFFOLK. Country Properties and Farms.—C. M. STANFORD AND SON, Colchester (Tel. 3165, 4 lines).

IRELAND. Farms and Sporting Properties, Hotels, City Residences, Investment Properties for Sale, consult STOKES & QUERKE, M.J.A.A., Auctioneers, Kildare Street, Dublin, and Clonmel.

IRELAND. Stud farms, country and shooting.

WANTED TO RENT

ESTATE AGENTS

AMERSHAM, GREAT MISSENDEN, CHESHAM. The lovely Chiltern country. PERRY & ELLIS, Amersham (Tel. 28), GL. Missenden (28) and Chesham (16).

BERKS, BUCKS and Surrounding Counties. Town and Country Properties of all types.—MARTIN & POLE (incorporating WATTS & SON), 23, Market Place, Reading (Tel. 60266), and at Caversham, Wokingham, Bracknell and High Wycombe.

BEXHILL, COODEN AND DISTRICT. Agents: STAINES & Co. (Est. 1892), Devonshire Road, Bexhill (Tel. 349).

BUCKS. Details of Residential Properties now available on application to HETHERINGTON & SECRETY, F.A.I., Estate Offices, Gerrards Cross (Tel. 2094-2510), and Beaconsfield (Tel. 249 and 1054), and at London, W5.

CHANNEL ISLANDS. English Agents with local office.—RUMSEY & RUMSEY, Bournemouth and 14 Branch Offices.

COTSWOLDS. Also Berks, Oxon and Wilts.—HOBBS & CHAMBERS, Chartered Surveyors, Chartered Auctioneers and Estate Agents, Cirencester (Tel. 62-63), and Faringdon (Tel. 2113).

DEVON and S.W. COUNTIES. For Selected List of PROPERTIES.—RIPPOB BOSWELL & Co., F.A.I., Exeter. Tel. 3204.

HOUSEBOATS FOR SALE

WE HAVE AVAILABLE For Sale, a number of permanently moored, comfortable and fully equipped Houseboats, ideally situated in the most beautiful part of Salcombe Harbour. Salcombe is a perfect site for marine residence, excellent sailing, fishing, shooting, etc. Particulars gladly on request.—CHADDER-BLANK & WINTER, LTD., 54, Fore Street, Salcombe, South Devon.

SHOOTINGS AND FISHERIES TO LET

SHOOTING. One or more guns to let by the week, with party shooting Scottish grouse moor August-September. Reasonable cost. Good local hotel accommodation.—Box 6386.

CLASSIFIED ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED ON OTHER PAGES
Pages 58-59 — All other classified advertisements.

RATES AND ADDRESS FOR ADVERTISEMENTS ON PAGE 58

COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CXIII No. 2920

JANUARY 2, 1953

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

Preliminary announcement

"GOLDICOTE," NEAR STRATFORD-ON-AVON A FINE RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ESTATE OF ABOUT 290 ACRES



The residence is built of brick and stands in a wooded park approached by a drive.

Entrance hall, 2 reception rooms, billiards room, 6 best bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 self-contained flats. Central heating. Main electricity. Estate water (available). Ample land 5 cottages.

240 acres with woods, and small-plant gardens. A timbered park. Includes grass, arable and.



to be announced (unless previously sold privately) Messrs. Knight, Frank & Rutley, Stratford-on-Avon.

SURREY N HAND

LANDS 250 FEET UP IN A SECLUDED POSITION
fine views to the Surrey hills.

Electricity, power, gas and water. Central heating. Stabling. Garage for 3. DINGS. 2 COTTAGES
secure grounds.

RESIDENCE
KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (45,904)

LEICESTERSHIRE in Grantham Triangle Main line station 6 miles.



Main electric light, power and drainage. Well water supply (main available).

Stabling, Hunter Boxes and Garage.

The grounds are adorned by a variety of ornamental trees and have been well maintained. Hard tennis court, lawns, fish pond, fruit and vegetable garden, farmery. Meadow and arable land.

LODGE AND 5 COTTAGES.

PRICE WITH ABOUT 50 ACRES

The house would be sold with less land and cottages.

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (32,663)

SOMERSET

Occupying a Grand Situation in a finely timbered Park, facing South and East and commanding extensive Views



THE FINE ELIZABETHAN E-SHAPED MANOR HOUSE

has been thoroughly modernised and is now in first-class order.

Halls, 5 reception rooms, office, 8 principal and 10 other bedrooms, 6 bathrooms. Main electricity, oil-fired central heating. Private water supply and drainage. Stabling and garage block.

Gardens and grounds, walled kitchen garden. Several cottages.



FOR SALE WITH 43 UP TO 800 ACRES

Main residence would be let unfurnished on lease with or without shooting and fishing.

Sole Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (44,790)

classified properties

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WANTED URGENTLY. Within 80 miles west or north-west of London. Superior residential Property with 8 bed., 3-4 bath., 4 reception, etc., in good repair. Garage, stabling, 2 cottages and some pasture. Main services and central heating preferred. Price up to £15,000. Usual commission required. —Particulars and photographs for special applicant: R.G.F.A., c/o HEWITT AND CO., F.A.I., High Street, Lymington. Tel. 26.

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To Let—Furnished

FRENCH RIVIERA. Pied-à-terre and Humber Hawk car. Sterling or Francs. —Box 6499.

Estate Agents

SOUTHERN RHODESIA. If you are contemplating settling in this rich and opportunity, consult THE SALISBURY BOARD OF EXECUTORS, LTD. (established 1895), Box 21, Salisbury. Lists of all types of Farms, Businesses, Investments and Houses available. Our Real Estate Department will be pleased to help newcomers to the colony. Other services available are: Trusts and Estates administered, Loans and Investments arranged, Insurance, Company and other secretarial shops.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA. MIDLAND DEVELOPMENT, LTD., for Farms, Houses, Businesses and Building Sites in the rich and healthy Midland area. —Inquiries with full details of your requirements, are invited to P.O. Box 212, Gwelo.

FURNITURE REMOVERS AND DEPOSITORIES

HAMPTONS of Pall Mall East for expert removals, storage and shipping abroad. All staff fully experienced. Depository: Ingate Place, Queenstown Road, Battersea Park, S.W.8. MACaulay 3434.

HOULTS, LTD., Specialists in removals and storage at home and overseas. Expert packers ensure safe delivery. Large or small deliveries anywhere. Estimates free. —HOULTS, LTD., The Depositories, Chase Road, Southgate, London, N.14 (Tel.: PALmers Green 1167). Also at Newcastle, Carlisle, Glasgow.

MAKE USE of our Return Load Vans and your removal will cost less, by the firm with the splendid reputation. —JOSEPH MAY, LTD., Whitfield Street, W.1. Tel.: MUSEum 2411.

OVERSEAS REMOVALS. Settlers' effects packed and forwarded by PICKFORDS, removers and storers. First-class storage. Branches in all large towns. Head Office: 102, Blackstock Rd., London, N.4. Tel. CAN. 4444.

ESTATE AGENTS

AMERSHAM, GREAT MISSENDEN, CHESHAM. The lovely Chiltern country. —PRETTY & ELLIS, Amersham (Tel. 28), Gt. Misenden (28) and Chesham (16).

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ESTATE AGENTS

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IRELAND. Stud farms, country and sporting properties, suburban and investment properties. We offer a comprehensive list. —HAMILTON & HAMILTON (ESTATES), LTD., Dublin.

ISLE OF WIGHT. For Town and Country Properties, Houses, Hotels, etc. —Apply: GROUNDSRELS, Estate Agents, Newport, Wight (Tel. 2171).

JERSEY, CHANNEL ISLANDS. —E. S. TAYLOR & Co., 18, Hill Street, St. Helier. Agents for superior residential properties.

MARKET HARBOUROUGH AND DISTRICT. Properties available and required. Valuations. Sales. —HOLLOWAY, PRICE & Co. (R. G. Green, F.R.I.C.S., F.A.I.), Chartered Auctioneers, Market Harborough. Tel. 2411.

N. SOMERSET. ALONZO, DAWES, SON AND RODDELL (Est. 1850), Clevedon. Specialising in seaside and country residences, also Agricultural Properties. Selected particulars on request.

OXFORDSHIRE & NORTH BERKSHIRE. —BUCKELL & BALLARD, 16, Cornmarket Street, Oxford (Tel. 4151), 4, St. Martin's Street, Wallingford (Tel. 3205).

SOMERSET, DORSET, DEVON. For details of Residential and Agricultural Properties consult R. B. TAYLOR & SONS, 16, Princes Street, Yeovil (Tel. 2074-6), and at Sherborne, Bridgwater and Exeter.

SURREY. Property in all parts of the county. —W. K. MOORE & Co., Surveyors, Carshalton (Tel.: Wallington 5577, 4 lines).

SUSSEX AND ADJOINING COUNTIES. —JAMES & Co., of Haywards Heath, specialists in high-class Residences and Estates, many of which are solely in their hands. (Tel. 700.)

SUSSEX COAST. Bexhill and Cooden Beach, Seaside and Country Properties. —GORDON GREEN & WEBBER, F.A.I., 9-11, Sea Road, Bexhill (Tel. 410-411).

TUNBRIDGE WELLS. Between London and the coast. For Residential Properties. —BRACKETT & SONS (Est. 1828), 27-29 High Street, Tunbridge Wells. Tel. 1153.

HOUSEBOATS FOR SALE

WE HAVE AVAILABLE For Sale, a number of permanently moored, comfortable and fully equipped Houseboats, ideally situated in the most beautiful part of Salcombe Harbour. Salcombe is a perfect site for marine residence, excellent sailing, fishing, shooting, etc. Particulars gladly on request. —CHADDER-BLANK & WINTER, LTD., 54, Fore Street, Salcombe, South Devon.

SHOOTINGS AND FISHINGS TO LET

SHOOTING. One or more guns to let by the week, with party shooting Scottish grouse moor August-September. Reasonable cost. Good local hotel accommodation. —Box 6356.

CLASSIFIED ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED ON OTHER PAGES
Pages 58-59 — All other classified advertisements.

RATES AND ADDRESS FOR ADVERTISEMENTS ON PAGE 58

COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CXIII No. 2920

JANUARY 2, 1953

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

Preliminary announcement

"GOLDICOTE," NEAR STRATFORD-ON-AVON A FINE RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ESTATE OF ABOUT 290 ACRES



The residence is built of brick and stands in a wooded park approached by a drive.

Entrance hall, 2 reception rooms, billiards room, 6 best bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 self-contained flats. Central heating. Main electricity. Estate water supply (main soon available). Ample garages. Lodge and 5 cottages.

Home Farm of about 240 acres with good house and buildings, and small-holding (both let). Delightful gardens and grounds, and well timbered park.

The Estate also includes grass, arable and woodland.



For Sale by Auction as a whole or in lots at a date to be announced (unless previously sold privately)

Auctioneers: Messrs. WALKER, BARNARD & SON, Union Chambers, Stratford-on-Avon; Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.

SOUTH-EAST SURREY

200 ACRES IN HAND

THE RESIDENCE IS CENTRALLY PLACED AND STANDS 250 FEET UP IN A SECLUDED POSITION

It faces south-west and commands fine views to the Surrey hills.

Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, billiards room, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main electricity, power, gas and water. Central heating. Stabling. Garage for 3.

FARMERY WITH T.T. BUILDINGS. 2 COTTAGES

Well-timbered pleasure grounds.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Sole Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (45,904)

LEICESTERSHIRE

In the Leicester, Nottingham, Grantham Triangle

On the outskirts of a village. Main line station 6 miles.

The house, the centre portion of the Queen Anne era, has had wings added in complete harmony. It is beautifully equipped and stands about 500 feet up with delightful views over well-timbered and undulating countryside.

Hall, 5 reception, 9 principal bed and dressing rooms, nursery suite and 4 staff bedrooms, 7 bathrooms. Oil-fired central heating and separate hot-water system.



Main electric light, power and drainage. Well water supply (main available).

Stabling, Hunter Boxes and Garage.

The grounds are adorned by a variety of ornamental trees and have been well maintained. Hard tennis court, lawns, lily pond, fruit and vegetable garden, farm-ery. Meadow and arable land

LODGE AND 5 COTTAGES.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD AT A LOW PRICE WITH ABOUT 50 ACRES

The house would be sold with less land and cottages.

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (32,663)

SOMERSET

Occupying a Grand Situation in a finely timbered Park, facing South and East and commanding extensive Views



THE FINE ELIZABETHAN
E-SHAPED MANOR HOUSE

has been thoroughly modernised and is now in first-class order.

Halls, 5 reception rooms, office, 8 principal and 10 other bedrooms, 6 bathrooms. Main electricity, oil-fired central heating. Private water supply and drainage. Stabling and garage block.

Gardens and grounds, walled kitchen garden. Several cottages.



FOR SALE WITH 43 UP TO 800 ACRES

Main residence would be let unfurnished on lease with or without shooting and fishing.

Sole Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (44,790)

MAYfair 3771
(15 lines)

20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

Telegrams:
"Galleries, Wesdo, London"



JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF

8, HANOVER STREET, LONDON, W.1 MAYFAIR 3316/7

Also at CIRENCESTER, NORTHAMPTON, LEEDS, YEOVIL, CHICHESTER, R. CHESTER, NEWMARKET AND DUBLIN

4 MILES SOUTH OF MAIDSTONE

In a corner of a private estate.

The pleasing house commands magnificent views to south, and is delightfully situated.



It contains hall, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, 6 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms.

MAIN ELECTRICITY AND WATER.

PARTIAL

CENTRAL HEATING

Lovely garden with 2 ornamental ponds

TOTAL AREA ABOUT 2 1/4 ACRES

FOR SALE PRIVATELY NOW OR BY AUCTION IN THE SPRING

Sole Agents: JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 8, Hanover Street, W.1. (MAYfair 3316-7)

NORMANDY, NEAR GUILDFORD

A SUBSTANTIAL

BRICK AND TILED HOUSE BUILT IN 1906

HALL,
4 RECEPTION ROOMS,
8 BEDROOMS,
3 BATHROOMS.

MAIN WATER,
ELECTRICITY AND
GAS.

PARTIAL
CENTRAL HEATING.

Garage.

Heavily timbered grounds
ABOUT 3 1/2 ACRES

The house lends itself for
division.



PRICE £7,000

JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 8, Hanover Street, W.1 (MAYfair 3316-7).

TWO VERY GOOD PROPERTIES IN HEREFORDSHIRE

MORNEY CROSS, FOWNHOPE

In a superb position, standing high above the Wye with good views.

6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 dressing rooms.

3 reception rooms, cloakroom.

ELECTRICITY.

AMPLE WATER. CENTRAL HEATING.

2 FLATS, COTTAGE.

Garage and stabling accommodation.

Delightful inexpensive garden, paddocks, etc.

15 1/2 ACRES

FREEHOLD FOR SALE

Sole Agents: JACKSON-STOPS, Cirencester (Tel. 334-5).



BETWEEN HEREFORD AND HAY

In a village

HALF-TIMBERED HOUSE DATING IN PART
FROM THE 13th CENTURY

5 bedrooms, bathroom, 4 reception rooms, cloakroom.
Main electricity. Good water supply. Various outbuildings.

Garden intersected by a small stream; paddock, etc.

TOTAL 9 ACRES

FREEHOLD FOR SALE

Particulars from the Owner's Agents: JACKSON-STOPS, Cirencester (Tel. 334-5).

GLORIOUSLY AND IDEALLY SITUATED

AN ARTIST'S OR AUTHOR'S PERFECT HOME

Cotswolds. Convenient Painswick, Gloucester, Cheltenham.



15 ACRES. GOOD HACKING FACILITIES. VERY LOW RATES

Sole Agents: JACKSON-STOPS Cirencester. Tel 334-5

(Folio 12,398)

CHARMING,
MODERNISED,
PART 13th CENTURY
RESIDENCE

having south aspect.

3 sitting rooms, cloaks.
Fully equipped offices with
Aga. 5 bedrooms, bath-
room.

Stabling (2), double

Garage. Barn.

Electricity. Fine water

supply. Simple gardens.

WEST SUSSEX COAST

Within easy reach of Chichester Harbour

Favoured situation.

PARTICULARLY ATTRACTIVE MODERN RESIDENCE

Entrance hall, cloakroom,

2 reception, 4-5 bedrooms,

2 bathrooms, kitchen, etc.

Part Central Heating.

Main Services.

Pleasant Gardens.

Large Garage.



PRICE £5,500 (or near offer) to ensure early sale.

Agents: JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 37, South Street, Chichester.

(Tel. 2633-4)

[Continued on page 15]

Tel. GROsvenor 3121
(3 lines)

WINKWORTH & CO.

48, CURZON STREET,
LONDON, W.1

ABOUT 25 MILES FROM LONDON



WINKWORTH & Co. 48, Curzon Street, London, W.1. Tel. GRO. 3121.

A mellowed red-brick
and tiled Queen Anne
Residence

5 main bed., 3 bath.,
lounge hall and 3 recep-
tion rooms, 4 staff bed
and 4th bathroom. Main
electricity and water.
Complete central heating.
Stabling. Garages and
flat. Cottage. Partly
walled old-world gardens
with hard tennis court
and park-like land.

FOR SALE WITH
OVER 40 ACRES

WINCHESTER AREA



Overlooking a valley.
A Georgian Residence
with addition.

In excellent order.

6 bed., 3 bath., 4 recep-
tion rooms and staff
wing. Central heating.
Shady matured grounds.
2 excellent Cottages.

MODEL FARM
PRICE £16,500
WITH 40 ACRES
Vacant Possession.

Agents: WINKWORTH &
Co., 48, Curzon Street,
W.1.

LONDON UNDER ONE HOUR

A Queen Anne
Residence
completely modernised.

7 best bedrooms with 3
bathrooms, staff flat and
4 reception rooms. Up-
to-date kitchen offices.

Central heating. Fitted
bathrooms. Main water and
electricity.

Stabling, garage and
cottage. Walled garden,
kitchen garden, and park-
land (let) Price £18,000
with nearly 70 ACRES

WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon Street, W.1. Tel. GRO. 3121.



SUNNINGDALE AREA

London 35 minutes.
A completely
modernised House.
Ready for immediate
occupation.

7 bed., 3 bath., 4 recep-
tion rooms. Central heating
(by gas boiler).

New hard tennis court.

2 modern cottages.

MINIATURE FARM
PRICE £11,300
WITH 8 ACRES

For Crown Lease. Agent:
WINKWORTH & Co., 48,
Curzon Street, W.1.



KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

GERRARDS CROSS

LONDON 32 MINUTES WITH FREQUENT TRAIN SERVICE



Attractive well-fitted House in first-class order and occupying an excellent position overlooking a common.

Lounge, hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

Central heating.

All main services.

2 garages (one with garden's accommodation over).

Well laid-out and easily maintained gardens. Productive kitchen garden.

ABOUT 1½ ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents, Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (46,457)

MAYfair 3771
(15 lines)

20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

Between HAYWARDS HEATH and COAST

Delightfully unspoilt situation under an hour from London by electric trains.

A Charming Regency House in a secluded position with beautiful views to South Downs.

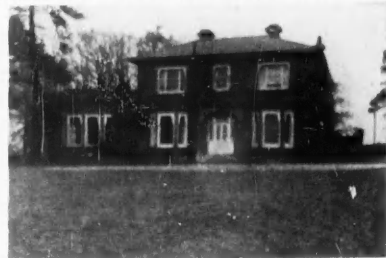
4 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Central heating. Main electricity and water. Garages for 3-4 cars. 4 loose boxes.

Range of Farm Buildings.

Delightful wooded gardens and grounds with kitchen gardens Orchard and 5 enclosures of grassland.

ABOUT 32½ ACRES. PRICE £9,500

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. (10,419)



Telegrams: "Nicholas, Reading."
"Nichenyer, Piccy, London"

(Established 1882)

Telephones:
Reading 4441-2-3
REgent 1184 (3 lines)

NICHOLAS

(INCORPORATING MESSRS. EDWARD SYMONS & PARTNERS)

1, STATION ROAD, READING; 4, ALBANY COURT YARD, PICCADILLY, W.1

SONNING, Near READING

On the high ground almost adjoining the golf course (with squash club). Easy daily reach of London from Reading (3 miles) and Twyford (2 miles). Excellent bus service.

A PERFECT SMALL HOUSE OF CHARACTER



Hall with cloakroom, most attractive lounge with ante room, Sun lounge, dining room, 3 bedrooms, a luxuriously appointed principal bathroom and a second bathroom.

ALL MAIN SERVICES

A lovely garden (inexpensive to maintain).

FOR SALE FREEHOLD £6,500

SULHAMSTEAD, BERKSHIRE, £4,750

In this favourite unspoilt country 6½ miles west of Reading and within 11½ miles of Newbury

A PLEASANT SMALL COUNTRY HOUSE (ORIGINALLY A PAIR OF COTTAGES)

on high ground overlooking fields. 3 reception rooms, excellent kitchen, 5 bedrooms, bathroom. Mains electricity. Garage. Stable. Slightly OVER 2 ACRES including a paddock.

FOR SALE, FREEHOLD £4,750
Sole Agents: Messrs. NICHOLAS.

WANTED BERKSHIRE

In the country west of Reading towards Newbury, Kintbury and Wantage.

A COUNTRY HOUSE WITH 9 BEDROOMS AND A LITTLE GRAZING
Price about £10,000. No hurry for possession.
Write "P." c/o Messrs. NICHOLAS, Reading.

FARMHOUSE OF CHARACTER AND 30 ACRES OXFORDSHIRE CHILTERN

Messrs. Nicholas have been instructed by a client to advertise for a farmhouse of some character on high ground in unspoilt setting with at least 30 ACRES. Quite willing to improve and PREPARED TO PAY A GOOD PRICE. IN NO HURRY FOR POSSESSION.

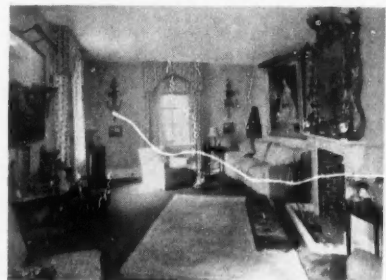
Write "K." c/o Messrs. NICHOLAS, Reading. (NO COMMISSION REQUIRED).

HILLIER, PARKER, MAY & ROWDEN

TEL: MAYfair 7666 (20 lines)

ASHFORD, KENT

ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE TO BE LET FURNISHED
(ideal for the Coronation period)



The accommodation comprises:

Entrance hall, 2 reception rooms, cloakroom, servants' quarters with kitchen sitting room, 2 bedrooms and bathroom, 4 principal bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

GARAGE
STABLES
OUTBUILDINGS

MAIN SERVICES
CENTRAL HEATING

TO BE LET FOR 6 MONTHS FROM MAY, 1953
or longer period if required.

Further details and photographs from HILLIER, PARKER, MAY & ROWDEN, 77, Grosvenor Street, London, W.1.

SURREY

FREEHOLD DETACHED RESIDENCE

3 minutes' walk Kingswood Station, in convenient and accessible position.

Comprising

5 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS
CLOAKROOM, MODERN DOMESTIC OFFICES, GARAGE

APPROX. ¾ ACRE GROUNDS
FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION

NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE

FREEHOLD MANSION, NOW USED AS CONVALESCENT HOME

MAGNIFICENT ENTRANCE HALL, LOUNGE HALL, 8 RECEPTION ROOMS, CLOAKROOMS, EXTENSIVE KITCHEN QUARTERS, 40 BEDROOMS, 7 BATHROOMS, LARGE ATTICS
STABLES FOR 22 HORSES, 2 COTTAGES
NUMEROUS OUTBUILDINGS. 35 ACRES

Main electricity. Ample water supply. Part central heating.

IDEAL FOR SCHOOL OR INSTITUTION



BERNARD THORPE & PARTNERS

LONDON

EDINBURGH

OXFORD

IN ONE OF THE LOVELIEST COTSWOLD VILLAGES

"Far (but not too far) from the Madding Crowd," with Windrush trout fishing available nearby, and in the best of the Heythrop country.

DELIGHTFUL OLD HOUSE

Stone built and stone roofed

Set in a walled garden, and in the village. Contains a charming studio and 3 other reception rooms, modern kitchen, ground floor cloakroom, etc., 6 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms.

MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER.

MAIN WATER

STABLING FOR 3 HUNTERS

Garage for 2 cars.

FOR SALE PRIVATELY OR
BY AUCTION LATER



Sole Agents: BERNARD THORPE & PARTNERS, West End Office (Tel GROsvenor 2501).

BERNARD THORPE & PARTNERS, 129, Mount Street, Berkeley Square, W.1. Head Office: 32, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. Branches at Edinburgh and Oxford.

QUEEN ANNE VICARAGE

Between the Downs and the sea

HOUSE OF CHARACTER

comprising 3 reception, 9 beds, bathroom, etc., garage with rooms over. Main services. Garden.

FREEHOLD ONLY £5,000

ALSO OTHER SUSSEX VICARAGES

of similar accommodation in Newhaven, Upper Dicker and Westfield available on very favourable terms.

PRICE FROM £2,750

with conveyance free of stamp duty

Details from Oxford Office, Tel.: Oxford 975 or 1010.



HAMPTON & SONS

6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1

REGENT 8222 (20 lines)

Telegrams: "Gelaniet, Piccy, London"



DAIRY (T.T. AND ATTESTED) POULTRY AND MIXED FARMS—112-260 ACRES

SUSSEX. In well-timbered country. 15 miles Eastbourne, 1½ miles village.

VALUABLE DAIRY FARM OF 112 ACRES



PICTURESQUE FARMHOUSE
15th CENTURY
Modernised and in excellent condition.
3 reception, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Co.'s electric light and power.

Attractive gardens, east house, modern farm buildings with 8-stall milking parlour.

16th CENTURY FARMHOUSE.
2 cottages. Co.'s electric light and own water.

PRICE £19,500 FREEHOLD

Adjoining farm of 147 acres with period house and buildings and cottage rented.

Inspected and recommended by
HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (D.2,258)

IDEAL FOR LONDON BUSINESS MAN

Close to favourite riverside town. Secluded position, under 5 minutes' walk main-line station (23 minutes Waterloo). Several golf courses near.

PICTURESQUE MODERNISED RESIDENCE



White panelled hall, cloaks, 2 good reception rooms, sun parlour.

Modern labour-saving offices (Aga cooker).

5 bed and dressing rooms (4 with basins), modern bathroom, playroom.

ALL MAIN SERVICES.

Garage.

Timbered grounds of **1 ACRE**

FREEHOLD £7,950

Recommended by
HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (S.20,167)

IN THE WHADDON CHASE

Aylesbury about 4½ miles distant.

A CHOICE VILLAGE RESIDENCE



In exceptional order and finely appointed.

Standing in its own grounds of 4 acres. 2 floors only. Hall, 2 reception, lovely drawing room, 5 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, usual offices.

Central heating.

Co.'s electricity and water.

Cottage (let), garage.

Charming grounds, kitchen garden, etc.

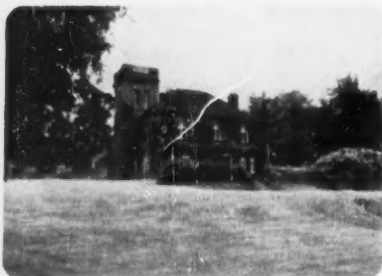
£8,750 FREEHOLD. HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

Apply: **HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (B.59,801)**

SURREY—HANTS BORDERS

In lovely country, convenient for Woking and Guildford. Pleasing outlook.

ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE ON GEORGIAN LINES



Lounge hall, 2 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms (all with basins), 2 bathrooms.

Compact offices with staff sitting room.

Main services.

Central heating throughout.

Parquet flooring.

Garage for 2.

Easily maintained gardens and woodland of 13 acres, in all **15 ACRES**

PRICE FREEHOLD £9,000

Recommended by
HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (S.31,287)

CHILTERN HILLS

Adjoining the National Trust's Ashridge Estate on the Bucks-Herts borders.

BEAUTIFULLY SITUATED SMALL RESIDENTIAL ESTATE

DUNCOMBE FARM,
Aldbury, near Tring

Modernised Period Residence. Hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, 4 principal and 4 secondary bedrooms, 4 bathrooms.

Main electricity and water. Walled kitchen garden and orchard.

MODEL T.T. ATTESTED BUILDINGS

Sheltered, easy working land, in all

64 ACRES

Vacant Possession.



For Sale privately or by AUCTION, FEBRUARY 18, 1953

Joint Auctioneers: **HAMPTON & SONS, as above, and BENNETT, SONS & BOND, Market Hill, Buckingham (Tel. 2104).**

SUSSEX

500 ft. up; 6 miles from Tunbridge Wells and on bus route.

A well-planned and superbly fitted Freehold Country Residence

On 2 floors only.

Hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, ideal domestic offices, 5 principal bed and dressing rooms, 3 staff bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

CHARMING 4-ROOMED COTTAGE

Main electricity and water.

Double garage. Lovely gardens and woodlands.

In all **13 ACRES** with **Vacant Possession.**



Extremely moderate price and very highly recommended as one of the best values in the market to-day.

HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (C.27,487)

BUCKS—About 21 Miles N.W. of London

Between Rickmansworth and Amersham.

DELIGHTFUL MODERN COUNTRY RESIDENCE OF DISTINCTION

Well-appointed and proportioned rooms.

4-5 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 separate staff bedrooms and bathroom.

3 reception rooms, excellent offices, hall, cloakroom.

2 GARAGES.

Companies' services.

Gas-fired central heating.

Attractive garden of about **1 ACRE**



FREEHOLD £9,500 WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Apply: **HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (B.49,024)**

RURAL POSITION ON

EDGE OF OLD WORLD TOWN

Herts-Bucks Borders under 25 miles London.

A CHARMING AND SECLUDED COUNTRY HOUSE

of Georgian characteristics in parklike grounds of **5 ACRES**

together with lodge and cottage, and with Vacant Possession of the whole.

Hall, cloakroom, 3 reception, 7 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, complete offices.



GARAGES AND STABLING. MAIN SERVICES. AT ONLY £5,975 FOR QUICK SALE

Joint Sole Agents: **ORCHARD & CO., Hemel Hempstead, and HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (R.278)**

(Continued on page 9)

BRANCH OFFICES: KENSINGTON, W.8; WIMBLEDON COMMON, S.W.19; BOURNEMOUTH, HANTS; AND BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS

REgent
4304

OSBORN & MERCER

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

28b, ALBEMARLE STREET,
PICCADILLY, W.1

COOKHAM AND MAIDENHEAD

Beautifully situated in a lovely rural position, on high ground commanding wonderful views.

A Charming Property in the Georgian Style
Converted from the garage and stabling block of a large house.

Hall, 3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, maids' sitting room. Main electricity and power.
Useful outbuildings and well-disposed gardens of **ABOUT 3/4 ACRE**

FOR SALE FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION
Inspected by OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (19,810)

HERTS, NEAR RICKMANSWORTH

In a quiet position overlooking unspoilt country and convenient for fast electric train service to London.

AN ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE
built of red brick with tiled roof and in good order.
2 reception rooms, playroom, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.
Main services, Central heating. Garage.

Matured gardens with lawns, productive kitchen garden, orchard, etc., in all **ABOUT 1 1/4 ACRES**

FREEHOLD ONLY £5,950. VACANT POSSESSION
Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (19,865)

HAMPSHIRE, NEAR ALTON

In a village, in lovely country, some 700 ft. above sea level.

A CHARMING OLD COTTAGE

Completely modernised and labour saving.
3 reception, 3 bedrooms, bathroom.

Main electricity and water, Radiators. Garage.
Matured garden with productive vegetable garden, fruit, etc.

PRICE FREEHOLD ONLY £4,850

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (19,765)

BERKS AND HANTS BORDERS

In the delightful old village of Mortimer, adjacent to the Common.

A CHARMING BRICK-BUILT RESIDENCE
beautifully appointed and in first-class decorative order.

3 reception, 5-6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.
Central heating. Main services.
Garage, stabling, outbuildings.
Partly walled garden, vegetable garden, fruit trees, etc., in all **about 1 acre**.

PRICE FREEHOLD ONLY £5,950

Sole Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (19,838)

IN EAST SUSSEX VILLAGE

Near station, shops and excellent bus services to London, Tunbridge Wells and the coast.

SMALL HOUSE OF CHARACTER

In splendid order and easy to run.

Lounge hall, 2 reception rooms, third large room, 4 bedrooms, bathroom. Main Services, Radiators, Garage.
Charming small garden with grass paddock and fruit trees, in all **ABOUT 3/4 ACRE**

ONLY £4,250 FREEHOLD. LOW RATES

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (19,737)

ON THE EDGE OF THE COTSWOLDS

Occupying a magnificent position, some 350 ft. above sea level, commanding open views to the Welsh hills.

A DELIGHTFUL STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE

Soundly constructed and in excellent order.

5 reception rooms, 8 principal and 3 staff bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Main services. Central heating.

The matured, well-timbered gardens form a beautiful setting and extend in all to **ABOUT 2 1/2 ACRES**

MODERATE PRICE FREEHOLD

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (19,720)

MOUNT STREET,
LONDON, W.1

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

GROsvenor
1032-33-34

SUSSEX

NEAR LEWES AND THE DOWNS.



DELIGHTFUL SMALL 16th-CENTURY HOUSE,
modernised and in good condition. 5-6 bedrooms,
2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. Main electricity. Good
water supply. Useful outbuildings. Garden and land.

About 11 ACRES with Possession.
ALSO FARM OF 65 ACRES LET AT £145 PER ANNUM. PRICE £7,950 FREEHOLD
RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

UNDER 25 MILES LONDON

Easy of access by road or rail

**A REALLY CHOICE RESIDENTIAL,
AGRICULTURAL AND SPORTING
PROPERTY**

NEARLY 350 ACRES

CHARMING PERIOD RESIDENCE

part dating from the 16th century, completely modernised
and in first-class order.

7 BED AND DRESSING ROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS,
FINE LOUNGE, AND 3 RECEPTION ROOMS.

Agas cooker. Main electricity and water.

**EXTENSIVE RANGE OF FARM BUILDINGS
IN 2 SETS. COWHOUSE FOR 26. T.T. AND
ATTESTED. 8 COTTAGES**

FREEHOLD FOR SALE

Early Vacant Possession.

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

SURREY—SUSSEX BORDERS

Midst unspoilt country. High position. Lovely views.
40 minutes London.



A LOVELY 16th-CENTURY HOUSE

5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception, model offices.
All in perfect order. Main electricity and water. Garage.
Small range of farm buildings. Really charming grounds.
ABOUT 12 ACRES. FREEHOLD FOR SALE
Sole Agents, as above.

Tel.: MAYfair
0023-4

R. C. KNIGHT & SONS

130, MOUNT STREET,
LONDON, W.1

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE REQUIREMENTS OF BONA FIDA APPLICANTS WISHING TO ACQUIRE THE
TYPE OF PROPERTY DESCRIBED BEFORE THE SPRING OF 1953

Details may be sent in confidence to the Agents, as above.

**URGENTLY REQUIRED IN BUCKINGHAM-
SHIRE, EAST WILTSHIRE OR SOUTH
BEDFORDSHIRE, SOUND COMMERCIAL FARM
OF ABOUT 400 ACRES.** Small but comfortable
farmhouse and adequate number of cottages essential.
(Ref. E.W.S.)

**LADY IS SEEKING A RED BRICK GEORGIAN
RESIDENCE IN HERTFORDSHIRE** within
easy reach of Hitchin. Maximum of 8 bedrooms. Staff
cottage essential. Land for seclusion up to **25 ACRES.**
(Ref. Mrs. R.)

WANTED IN HERTFORDSHIRE or adjoining
counties within 50 miles of London. **FARM OF
100 TO 200 ACRES** with Gentleman's Residence and
at least 2 cottages. (Ref. J.R.M.)

**WANTED IN THE HADHAM DISTRICT OF
HERTFORDSHIRE, A SMALL GEORGIAN
HOUSE** (other periods considered), with 6 bedrooms,
etc. Sufficient land for seclusion up to **10 ACRES.**
(Ref. Maj. N.C.)

WANTED IN OXFORDSHIRE OR COTSWOLDS
(Burford area particularly liked) **SMALL PERIOD
STONE-BUILT HOUSE** with 5-7 bedrooms. Garden
and paddock land up to **25 ACRES.** (Ref. C.R.)

**UP TO £7,000 WILL BE PAID FOR SMALL
PERIOD RESIDENCE IN KENT.** Tonbridge
or Maidstone areas preferred but not in village or town.
5-7 bedrooms, etc. (Ref. A.M.S.)

**URGENTLY REQUIRED IN HAMPSHIRE,
WILTSHIRE, DORSET OR SOMERSET.
A RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL PRO-
PERTY** of not less than **500 ACRES.** Principal house
with a minimum of 8 bedrooms. (Ref. R.A.L.)

**REQUIRED NEAR SUSSEX-HAMPSHIRE
BORDER** (Liphook district particularly favoured).
PERIOD HOUSE with 5-7 bedrooms, together with
farm between **80 AND 175 ACRES.** (Ref. K.H.)

**RETIRED ARMY OFFICER REQUIRES CHAR-
ACTER PERIOD HOUSE IN WILTSHIRE OR
DORSET** with 6-8 bedrooms. Stabling essential. Land
up to **75 ACRES.** (Ref. Col. G.R.)

And at NORWICH, STOWMARKET, CAMBRIDGE, BURY ST. EDMUNDS, HOLT and HADLEIGH

SLOane
8141

WILLIAM WILLETT LTD

SLOANE SQUARE, S.W.1.

52, CHURCH ROAD, HOVE
Tel. 34055

VILLAGE HOUSE, SOUTH HERTS HOUSE OF CHARACTER WITH ANNEXE

London 17 miles (31 minutes to Liverpool Street), 5-6
bedrooms, excellent modern bathroom, 3 good sitting
rooms, breakfast room, etc. Central heating. Immersion
heater. Garage. **1/2 ACRE.** 4-room annexe at present
used as a doctor's surgery, etc., but suitable for staff flat,
etc. **FREEHOLD £5,950.** Sole Agents.

NEAR BISHOP'S STORTFORD FASCINATING 16th-CENTURY THATCHED HOUSE

In elevated country position with beautiful view.
3 reception rooms, 2 modern bathrooms, 4 bedrooms.
Part central heating, 2 garages, etc. Mains. Lovely
garden of **2 ACRES**, including orchard.
FREEHOLD £6,350

BETWEEN DORKING & HORSHAM AMIDST UNSPOILT SURROUNDINGS ATTRACTIVE HOUSE

With Hall, 3 reception rooms, bathroom, 4-5 bedrooms,
nursery, offices. Central heating throughout. Excellent
order. Detached garage and workshop. **4 1/4 ACRES**,
including 2-acre paddock. **PRICE FREEHOLD, to
include fixtures, certain fitted carpets, etc., £7,000.**

BEAUTIFUL CHILTERN'S COUNTRY Close to Great Missenden with easy daily reach of the City and West End.



A really well-built and attractive Modern House
of considerable character and convenient size, all on
2 floors. Hall, 3 reception, old room, 6 beds, 2 baths.
Central heating. Mains. Garage. Stable, etc. Easy
garden and 2 orchard paddocks.
5 ACRES. ONLY £8,750

OUTSKIRTS BRIGHTON UNIQUE COTTAGE RESIDENCE

In park-like grounds. Delightful semi-rural situation,
near open country, yet 7 minutes bus to station. Gabled
cottage, 3 beds., worthy of extension. Stable. Garage. In
beautifully timbered grounds of **1 1/2 ACRES.** Lawns,
kitchen and fruit garden. **£7,500 FREEHOLD.**
Sole Agents: apply Hove Office.

SOUTH DOWNS—NR. EASTBOURNE MOST ATTRACTIVE DETACHED MODERN RESIDENCE

Built by an architect and formerly the subject of an
article in "Country Life". Glorious unbroken views.
5 bed and dressing, 2 baths., 3 reception, excellent domestic
offices. Detached garage. Grounds are a feature and
extend to **ABOUT 4 ACRES. £7,500 FREEHOLD**
Apply: Hove Office.

HASSOCKS

Suit City man, near station.

A COMPACT DETACHED BUNGALOW

3 beds., bath, lounge. Mains. Garage. 2 greenhouses
and a well-stocked and artistically laid out garden
£4,250 Freehold
Sole Agents: Apply Hove Office.

GROSVENOR 1553
(4 lines)

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778)
25, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

13, Hobart Place,
Eaton Square,
5, West Halkin Street,
Belgrave Square,
London, S.W.1

BEDFORD (8 MILES)

In village on bus route. A main line station within easy reach

SMALL PERIOD HOUSE with 5 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, main water and electricity, garage and outbuildings. $\frac{3}{4}$ ACRE garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD £4,650

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1. (R.907)

UNSOLD AUCTION BARGAIN SURREY HILLS

20 miles London. On bus route.

ATTRACTIVE MODERN RESIDENCE

4 bed., bath., 2 reception, s.-c. flat of 3 rooms and bath. Central heating. Main elec., gas and water.

PRICE £5,750 with 2 ACRES.

IMMEDIATE VACANT POSSESSION

Cottage might be available.

Illustrated particulars of GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1. (D.1573).

Between GUILDFORD and READING 4 miles main line station (Waterloo 40 minutes).



OWNER GOING ABROAD—MUST SELL
Modern, well-planned and luxuriously-appointed Residence virtually rebuilt within the last few years. 6 beds, 2 baths, 3 receptions. Central heating, all main services, garage block.

2 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD £9,850
Sole Agents: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS. (D.1,600)

DRASTIC PRICE REDUCTION SMALL MODERN RESIDENCE (40 YEARS)

5 bed., bath, 2 reception rooms, main water, electric light plant, garage and inexpensive terraced gardens; situate 5 miles Chelmsford in one of the loveliest positions in Essex with distant south view, and surrounded by common lands.

Fine range of 15 glasshouses totalling over 10,000 sq. ft. can be purchased adjoining with a total of 10 acres. £8,000 (reduced from £12,000).

Inspected by GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1. (A.5111).

BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS

7 minutes' walk from station. In quiet residential area, with secluded grounds.

MODERN RESIDENCE

with 8 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, 2 bathrooms, labour-saving domestic offices, garage and stable block, and other outbuildings.

1½ ACRES FREEHOLD

OFFER in REGION of £7,000 will be ACCEPTED

Owner's Agents: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1. (C.4236)

GROSVENOR
2861

TRESIDDER & CO.

77, SOUTH AUDLEY STREET, LONDON, W.1

Telegrams:
"Cornishmen, London"

T.T. & STOCK FARM—150 ACRES

BASINGSTOKE 9 miles (hour London), **COMFORTABLE MODERNISED HOUSE**, 4 reception, office, 2 bath., 5 bed. (1 h. and c.v.). Main electricity and water, telephone.

Model T.T. cowhouse, range of loose boxes. Large garage, entrance lodge, cottage.

Simply disposed gardens, small area of wood, remainder rich feeding pasture and arable.

UP TO £15,000 ON MORTGAGE IF WANTED. WOULD SELL LOCK, STOCK AND BARREL.

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1 (19,023).

£3,800 FREEHOLD

OXFORD 10 MILES. Amidst lovely country, near village. **CHARMING BLACK AND WHITE THATCHED COTTAGE**, modernised. Main electricity and water, 2-3 reception, bathroom, 3-4 bedrooms.

Inexpensive garden and orchard. Recommended.

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1 (22,057).

SOUTH DEVON COAST

ON HEADLAND WITH LOVELY SEA VIEWS

Secluded, not isolated. Convenient for golf.

RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER. 8 bed., 2 bath., 3 reception, lounge hall, Ess. cooker. Main electricity. Central heating. Parquet floors. Garages for 3. Flats for chauffeur and gardener. Delightful grounds, sloping almost to the sands, stocked with choice flowering shrubs, etc. Kitchen garden and small paddock, in all about 5 acres. Freehold.

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1 (11,742).

POLPERRO, CORNWALL

SEA AND COASTAL VIEWS

ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE. Hall, cloakroom, 2 reception (one oak-panelled), bathroom, 4 bed., attic. Main services. Telephone. Garage. Grounds of over an acre, most in natural state.

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1 (27,608).

Executors' Sale.

WEST SUSSEX—27 ACRES

2½ miles Pulborough (excellent rail services).

FIRST-CLASS COUNTRY HOUSE,

glorious views to South Downs, and with all modern conveniences. Main electricity. Central heating. Aga cooker. Fitted basins in bedrooms. 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 4 reception. Cottage (4 bedrooms). Double garage. Non-attention HARD TENNIS COURT. Spacious lawn, kitchen and fruit gardens, paddock, woodland, pasture and arable (let).

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (20,228)

£3,750. 2½ ACRES

TAUNTON 7 MILES. On outskirts of favourite village. **PICTURESQUE OLD-WORLD STONE-BUILT HOUSE** enjoying unspoilt views. Lounge hall, 2 reception, cloakroom, 4 bedrooms, bathroom. Main water and electricity. Fine old barn. Small cottage, garage, stabling. Garden and orcharding.

£3,250 FOR HOUSE AND GARAGE ONLY

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1 (28,169)

And at
FLEET ROAD,
FLEET.

ALFRED PEARSON & SON

WALCOTE CHAMBERS, HIGH STREET, WINCHESTER (Tel. 3388). HIGH STREET, HARTLEY WINTNEY (Tel. 233)

And at
ALDERSHOT and
FARNBOROUGH

ON THE HANTS—BERKS BORDERS

Only 1 mile from main line station (London 50 minutes).

A DELIGHTFUL LITTLE CHARACTER RESIDENCE



having modern conveniences and comforts

3 bedrooms, bathroom, dining room, lounge and kitchen.

Main water, gas and electricity.

Electric water heating.

Small but very attractively laid out garden.

PRICE £3,750 FREEHOLD. VERY LOW RATES.

Hartley Wintney Office.

BETWEEN WINCHESTER AND ALTON

On bus route, 10 miles Winchester, 7 miles Alton.

CHARMING COTTAGE-STYLE RESIDENCE

(Erected about 20 years ago)

2 reception rooms, sun lounge, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen, summer room.

GARAGE.

Easily maintained garden of nearly

1 ACRE

Lawn suitable for tennis.

PRICE £4,950 FREEHOLD (OR REASONABLE OFFER).

Winchester Office.

ASHFORD
(Tel. 25-26)

GEERING & COLYER

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (996), KENT. RYE (3155), HEATHFIELD (533) AND WADHURST, SUSSEX

HAWKHURST
(Tel. 3181-2)

WEALD OF KENT

4 miles Tenterden, 48 miles London. Lovely rural and beautifully secluded

AGRICULTURAL AND SPORTING ESTATE, 85 ACRES



17th-century Farmhouse.

Park-like surroundings.

3-5 beds., bath., 2 rec. rooms.

Central heating.

Electricity and water.

USEFUL FARM BUILDINGS AND MODERN COTTAGE

PRICE £7,500 FREEHOLD

Please reply to Hawkhurst Office.

EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE OLD KENTISH MANOR HOUSE

In secluded position, 4 mile village, only 5 miles main line station (London 50 minutes). 6 beds., dressing room, 3 baths., 3 rec. rooms, offices (Aga). Main water, elec. and drainage. Garage and outbuildings. Exceptionally well-stocked gardens, easy to maintain, orchard, etc., in all **ABOUT 4 ACRES. REDUCED TO £6,500 FOR QUICK SALE.** Apply: Ashford.

ANCIENT RYE

AVAILABLE SHORTLY ON SOUTH SIDE OF WATCHBELL STREET. MODERNISED RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER. Large high-pitched rooms. Glorious views to sea. 2 large sitting rooms, compact domestic offices 2 double and 2 single beds., 2 baths. Main services. Immaculate order and labour saving. Lovely walled and terraced garden, and attractive writing room.

Apply: Rye.

EAST SUSSEX

(Overlooking village green.)

ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER, 8 miles coast. 4 beds., bath., 2 attractive rec., large 25-ft. playroom, offices. Small garden. Garage. Main services. **ONLY £3,150.** Apply: Rye.

OLD-FASHIONED COUNTRY COTTAGE

In superb country. Between ASHFORD and CANTERBURY. KENT. 3 beds., bath., 2 rec., etc. Garden with fruit (room for garage), in all **ABOUT 1½ ACRES.** Co.'s water. Elec. available soon. Rateable value only £9. **FREEHOLD £2,250.** Apply: Ashford.

5, MOUNT STREET,
LONDON, W.1

CURTIS & HENSON

GROsvenor 3131 (3 lines)
Established 1875

EAST WILTSHIRE

IN ONE OF THE MOST ATTRACTIVE AREAS OF THE DISTRICT.

AN AGRICULTURAL AND SPORTING ESTATE. FORMING FIRST-CLASS INVESTMENT

comprising

3 MIXED FARMS WITH AMPLE COTTAGES, AND LET AT LOW RENTALS. SMALLHOLDING, WATER MEADOW, ALLOTMENTS, SMALL AREA OF WOODLAND. VILLAGE SHOP, 5 COTTAGES NOT LET WITH THE FARMS.

The whole is in a good state of repair, and the farmland within a ring fence.

PRODUCING AN ANNUAL GROSS RENTAL OF £1,442 10s. PER ANNUM. TITHE £305 8s. 4d. (subject to remission of £49 7s. 2d.).

TOTAL AREA 1,806 ACRES

THE ESTATE IS FOR SALE, AS A WHOLE, BY PRIVATE TREATY

Sole Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, as above.



HAMPTON & SONS

6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1

REGent 8222 (20 lines)

Telegrams: "Selanlot, Piccy, London"



TRUMPETERS HOUSE, RICHMOND, SURREY

This beautiful and Historic House, just off the Green, in the old courtyard of Richmond Palace, with views over the River, is arranged as four magnificent Flats which will appeal to those seeking a compact luxury residence of dignity and charm, easily accessible of Town.



Each flat comprising:

3 bedrooms, 1/2 reception rooms, bathroom, cloakroom and kitchen, Storeroom.

GARAGE

PERIOD PANELLING

PERIOD FIREPLACES

Beautifully decorated,

ALL MODERN AMENITIES

GAS CENTRAL HEATING

LOVELY GARDEN

99 YEARS' LEASE AT LOW GROUND RENT FOR SALE

Full particulars from HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (S.24,627)

BOURNEMOUTH
AND 12 BRANCH OFFICES

RUMSEY & RUMSEY

AND IN THE
CHANNEL ISLANDS

CHANNEL ISLANDS

LOW INCOME TAX. NO DEATH DUTIES.

JERSEY. GRANITE RESIDENCE in elevated position, overlooking expansive bay on southern side of the island. 6 large bedrooms (all south), 2 bathrooms, 3 fine reception rooms (1 oak panelled), labour-saving kitchen. Full central heating. Some carpets and curtains available. Servant's cottage. Garage 4 cars. Heated greenhouse. **1 1/2 ACRES** delightful grounds. Rates only £20 p.a.

OFFERS INVITED FOR FREEHOLD

GUERNSEY. GEORGIAN RESIDENCE, ideal for housing antiques. 5 large bedrooms and 3 others, splendid reception rooms, all modern amenities. 2 hungalows, cottage, farm buildings, garages, greenhouse. Formal and kitchen gardens, total **AREA 36 ACRES**, including farm let until 1954.

EXECUTORS INVITE OFFERS FOR FREEHOLD

FOR THESE AND MANY OTHER CHANNEL ISLANDS PROPERTIES, Apply, Head Office, 111, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Tel. 7080 (7 lines).

NEAR BRIDGWATER, SOMERSET

Situated in magnificent country surroundings overlooking the Quantock Hills, and on the outskirts of a large village 4 miles west of Bridgwater. Coast 9 miles, Minehead 20 miles and Bristol 40 miles.

A DISTINCTIVE MODERN COUNTRY RESIDENCE

beautifully appointed throughout and commanding a southern aspect, with exceptionally fine views.

Cloakroom, lounge (24 ft. by 14 ft.), conservatory, dining room, kitchen and excellent offices, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, w.c. Integral garage and out-buildings.

FULLY S/C FLAT:

Lounge, bedroom, bathroom w.c., and kitchen.

MAIN ELECTRICITY, WATER AND DRAINAGE.

Central heating throughout

1 1/2 ACRES of beautiful grounds, including a lawn tennis court, formal rose garden and fully stocked kitchen garden.

FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION OF THE WHOLE.

Photos and particulars from Country Dept., Head Office, 111, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Tel. 7080, Extn. 18.



82, QUEEN STREET,
EXETER.

RICKEARD, GREEN & MICHELMORE

Phones: 3934 and 3645
Grams: "Conrie," Exeter

Village Outskirts 2 miles from South Devon Coast
AN ATTRACTIVE AND COMFORTABLE HOUSE SET IN A GARDENER'S PARADISE, WHICH IS MAINTAINABLE BY ONE MAN ONLY,
as at present.

Secluded, sheltered position with easy access main line station, deep-water anchorage, golf, Anglican and R.C. churches. South aspect, open views. Conveniently planned on 2 floors only, modernised and with central heating and all main services.



Lounge hall, 2 reception rooms, billiards room, gun-room, cloakroom, domestic offices with staff sitting room, 6 bedrooms (2 with fitted basins), 2 bathrooms. A third bathroom and secondary accommodation suitable staff flat.

CHAUFFEUR'S FLAT
GARDENER'S LODGE
Garage for 4 cars.
Greenhouses, etc.

Exquisite gardens containing many specimen and rare trees, shrubs and plants. Fine walled garden, the whole about **4 1/2 ACRES**

MODEST PRICE FOR FREEHOLD WITH IMMEDIATE POSSESSION OF WHOLE

Inspected and recommended by Owner's Agents: as above. (Ref. D.9715)

CHUDLEIGH, SOUTH DEVON

Secluded position on village outskirts with southerly aspect and open views. Near Anglican and R.C. churches, shops, etc., and on frequent bus service. Fishing, golf, hunting and yachting all of easy access.

A SMALL GEORGIAN HOUSE

2 reception rooms, study, cloakroom, 5 bed and dressing rooms (2 with fitted basins), bathroom and usual offices.

CENTRAL HEATING

and

ALL MAIN SERVICES

Garage and useful out-buildings. Greenhouse.

Well-stocked garden, paddock, in all about

3 ACRES

REASONABLE PRICE FOR FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION

Inspected and recommended by Sole Agents: RICKEARD, GREEN & MICHELMORE, as above. (Ref. D.9697)



23, MOUNT STREET,
GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

LOVELY GEORGIAN HOUSE
WEST SUSSEX. South of the Downs and within easy reach of coast and main line station to Victoria.



IN DELIGHTFUL PARKLIKE SETTING WITH 6 ACRES

A house of great charm and character. Hall, 3 reception, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Main electric light and power. Aga. Garage and stabling block. 2 modern cottages. Walled gardens. Price **FREEHOLD £9,500**. **VACANT POSSESSION OF THE WHOLE**
Sole Agents: WILSON & Co., as above.

WILSON & CO.

GROSVENOR
1441

URGENTLY WANTED TO PURCHASE

1. Lady living in hotel in Hampshire requires

REGENCY OR GEORGIAN HOUSE

with 6/8 beds., 2/3 bath., 3 reception. Cottage. Few acres for protection. Good views.

WEST SUSSEX HAMPSHIRE OR DORSET

Lyne Regis and Bridport area liked.

PRICE £10,15,000 DEPENDING ON PROPERTY

Details and photos to Bournemouth, c/o WILSON & Co., as above.

2. Lady with house in Kensington requires

MODERN OR CHARACTER HOUSE IN SURREY

with 5/7 bedrooms. Must have one large reception.

STABLING and PADDOCK 3/10 ACRES ESSENTIAL.

Ewhurst, Holmbury, Shere, Forest Green, Ockley area favoured.

ABOUT £10,000 AVAILABLE

Details to Mrs. R., c/o WILSON & Co., as above.

KENT. 2 miles Tonbridge Station
IDEAL FOR THE BUSINESS MAN. 45 minutes London. Bus passes property. Adjoining orchards and farm.



A CHARMING COUNTRY HOUSE
Originally an old farm house now enlarged and modernised. 6 beds. (4 with basins, h. and c.), bathroom, lounge hall, 3 reception, domestic offices with breakfast room and Aga. Main electric light and power. Garage for 3 cars. Productive orchard, 1 1/2 acres. **Offer of £4,000 might secure this Freehold Property**
Sole Agents: WILSON & Co.

44, ST. JAMES'S
PLACE, S.W.1.

By order of Executors.

IN A LOVELY PART OF WEST SURREY

About 40 miles from London and convenient for Guildford, Haslemere and Horsham.
THE RESIDENCE IS PROBABLY 16th-CENTURY, BUT MODERNISED AND NOW IN SPLENDID ORDER

Near village and in rural surroundings.



IN ALL ABOUT 20 ACRES

Thoroughly recommended after inspection by the Sole Agents: JAMES STYLES AND WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1. (L.R.17,824)

HALL AND 3 SITTING
ROOMS, 8 BEDROOMS
(basins), 3 BATHROOMS

Main electricity and power.
Co.'s water. Central
heating, etc.

Garage for 2 cars. (Part
of old tithe barn.)

2 cottages. Most attractive
gardens and pasture
woodland.

JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK

REgent 0911
2858 and 0577

WEST OF ENGLAND

350 ACRES (203 AGRICULTURAL) MAGNIFICENT BUILDINGS.
ELIZABETHAN STONE-BUILT MANOR HOUSE in centre of estate, 360 ft. above sea level; wonderful views. Hall (41 ft. by 21 ft.) and 3 sitting rooms, 8 bedrooms, dressing room, 3 bathrooms. Electric light. Abundant water. Cottage, T.T. and attested farm buildings, with cowsheds for 50. Fishing on property. **VACANT POSSESSION.** (Live and dead stock can be purchased.)
Inspected and recommended by Sole Agents: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1. (L.R.25,109)

RURAL HAMPSHIRE—1 1/2 hours London

GEORGIAN COUNTRY FARMHOUSE RESIDENCE

High situation, southern aspect, beautiful views.
3 sitting rooms, 7 bedrooms (4 basins), 3 bathrooms. Main electricity and water. Central heating throughout. Cottage. Excellent buildings, including 2 barns, garage, milking shed, etc. Easily maintained gardens; also pasture, arable and woodland. Total about **23 ACRES. PRICE FREEHOLD £9,500**
JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R.25,188)

SUSSEX

OVER 200 ACRES. GENTLEMAN'S RESIDENCE. 2 COTTAGES.
EXCEPTIONAL RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY comprising a **SMALL RESIDENCE OF THE MANOR HOUSE TYPE.** Southern aspect, fine views. Everything in beautiful order. Under 45 miles London; short motor ride to 2 main-line stations. Main electricity, central heating (oil fired) 3 sitting rooms, 6 bedrooms, dressing room, 3 bathrooms. 2 cottages, garage, stabling and good farm buildings. Land of **OVER 200 ACRES. VACANT POSSESSION. MODERATE PRICE CONSIDERED**
JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R.25,795)

SALISBURY
(Tel. 2491)

WOOLLEY & WALLIS

and at RINGWOOD
and ROMSEY

NEW FOREST BORDERS

Occupying a choice site on high ground with extensive views over the Avon Valley. 1 1/2 miles from Ringwood, 13 miles from Bournemouth.

A WELL-DESIGNED MODERN RESIDENCE



In charming rural surroundings.

Labour saving and well appointed throughout.

Square hall, lounge, dining room, cloakroom, good domestic offices, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, etc.

EXCELLENT GARAGE

Pleasant garden and grounds, with paddock extending to

1 1/2 ACRES

MAIN ELECTRICITY, WATER AND GAS. MODERN DRAINAGE

VACANT POSSESSION. FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY

Full particulars from the Ringwood Office. (Tel. 191.)

WILTS.

Salisbury 20 miles. Devizes 5 miles. Close to Dauntsey's School and Lavington Station (London 2 hours.)

ATTRACTIVE PERIOD RESIDENCE IN PLEASANT VILLAGE

3 reception, 4 bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom. Main electricity and water. Modern drainage. Good garden, garage and outbuildings.

VACANT POSSESSION

FREEHOLD £4,750 OR NEAR OFFER

SALISBURY

Not far removed from the centre of the City.

18th-CENTURY HOUSE OF CHARACTER WITH LATER ADDITIONS

Very well proportioned rooms, 3 reception, 4 bedrooms, dressing room, kitchen, bathroom. All main services. Garage. Garden.

VACANT POSSESSION

FREEHOLD £4,250

Full particulars from the Salisbury Office.

MAPLE & CO., LTD.

5, Grafton Street, Mayfair, W.1 (REgent 4685)
Tottenham Court Road, W.1 (EUston 7000)

SURREY

High, healthy position, 750 ft. up, 1 1/2 miles station, with 3 trains per hour to London Bridge, Charing Cross and Victoria, 35-40-minute journey.

FREEHOLD PICTURESCUE BIJOU RESIDENCE



Hall, lounge (21 ft. by 12 ft.), dining room (16 ft. by 12 ft.), kitchen, scullery, 3 bedrooms, modern bathroom. Brick fireplaces.

Co.'s electricity and water.

GARAGE.

Heated greenhouse, etc. Pleasant gardens, tight fenced and wired, with grown hedges and trees, flowering trees and shrubs, etc.

ABOUT 3/4 ACRE

PRICE £6,000. RATEABLE VALUE £40

Further details of MAPLE & Co., LTD., as above (REgent 4685).

WELLESLEY-SMITH & CO.

17, BLAgrave STREET, READING. Reading 2920 and 4112.

OUTSTANDING HAMPSHIRE BARGAIN, £4,500

Easy reach of Winchester and Petersfield and on bus route.

Spacious galleried entrance hall.

3 sitting, including sun lounge with folding doors to loggia

4 bedrooms, bathroom

2 good garden rooms

GARAGE and

OUTHOUSES.

MAIN ELECTRICITY.

Pretty garden.

ABOUT AN ACRE

FREEHOLD



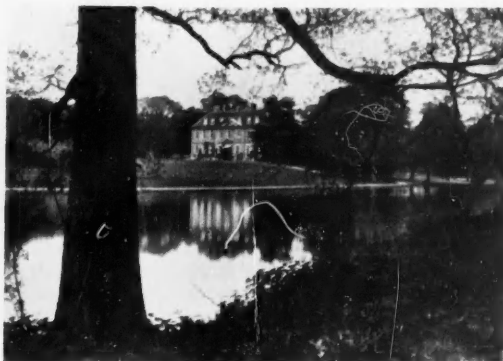
EXCELLENT HOUSE AND 17 ACRES ONLY £6,750

SUSSEX, BETWEEN HORSHAM AND THE COAST, with lovely southern views. Hall, cloak, 2.3 sitting, 5 beds. (basins), 2 baths. Main electricity. Charming appointments. Garage and excellent buildings. All land is in hand and suitable for fruit growing, dairying or pig-breeding. Inspected and recommended. WELLESLEY-SMITH & Co., as above.

JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

By direction of the late Sir Francis Burdett's Executors.

RAMSBURY MANOR, WILTSHIRE



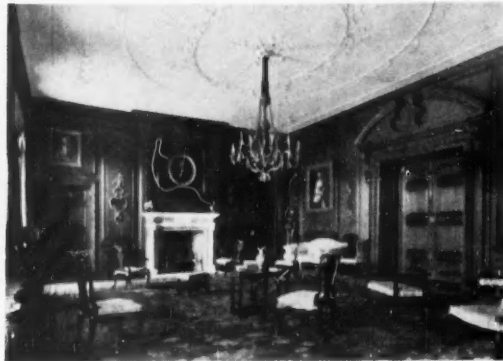
NEAR MARLBOROUGH
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH
VACANT POSSESSION

This unique and beautiful
CHARLES II PERIOD
HOUSE

(with Grinling Gibbons carving
and old hand-painted wallpapers)
With its park and appurtenant
woods of **ABOUT 223 ACRES**
and **1 MILE OF FIRST-CLASS**
TROUT FISHING IN THE
RIVER KENNET.

AN 800-ACRE FARM
ADJOINING

could be included if required
with possession at **Michaelmas,**
1953, and additional farms (let) to
make up a total of 1,700 acres, are
available.



Vendor's Agents: **JOHN GERMAN & SON,** Ramsbury, Wiltshire, and **JOHN D. WOOD & CO.,** 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (H.60,842)

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY

WIDCOMBE MANOR, BATH

The subject of an illustrated article in "Country Life."

THIS WELL-KNOWN AND BEAUTIFUL PERIOD MANOR HOUSE (CIRCA 1727)



OCCUPIES A MAGNIFICENT SITE,
HIGH UP, SURROUNDED BY TIM-
BERED PARKLAND OF ABOUT 15½
ACRES

Panelled hall, 3 reception rooms, 5 principa
bedrooms, 2 bath/dressing rooms, 3 other
bathrooms, 5 secondary bedrooms.

ALL MAIN SERVICES.

GARAGE. STABLING.

4 COTTAGES AND FLAT.

Beautiful terraced gardens.



Full particulars from the owner's Agents: **JOHN D. WOOD & CO.,** 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (C.70,147)

SOUTHWOOD, BICKLEIGH, NEAR EXETER

A CHOICE SMALL ESTATE IN AN ELEVATED POSITION OVERLOOKING THE LOVELY EXE VALLEY

DIGNIFIED RESIDENCE

with superb views.

HALL, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS, STUDY,
OFFICES with Aga, 6 GOOD BEDROOMS,
STAFF ROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS.

Electric light. Modern services.

Charming simple garden and lovely parkland.



ATTENDED T.T. FARMERY of ABOUT
224 ACRES, very fertile red land and
valuable wood.

BAILIFF'S HOUSE. 3 COTTAGES.

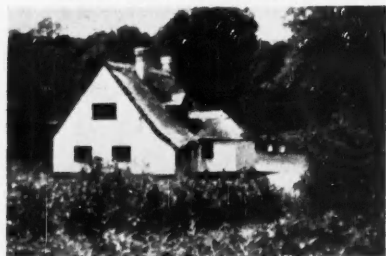
VACANT POSSESSION OF
THE WHOLE
except 1 cottage.

THE ESTATE WOULD BE SOLD
WITH 113 ACRES, OR LESS.

Joint Agents: **CHAMBERLAINE-BROTHERS & EDWARDS,** Exeter, and **JOHN D. WOOD & CO.,** 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (L.73,135)

RURAL ESSEX—2 miles Brentwood

25 minutes by electric trains to Liverpool Street.
A DELIGHTFUL SMALL COUNTRY RESIDENCE
THOROUGHLY MODERNISED



In completely unspoilt rural setting. 2-3 reception
rooms, 3-4 bedrooms, modern kitchen, bathroom and
cloakroom. Central heating. Main electricity. Excellent
water supply. Modern drainage. Telephone installed.
GARAGE. ABOUT 3½ ACRES in beautiful wood-
land surroundings. **FREEHOLD WITH VACANT**
POSSESSION.

Sole Agents: **JOHN D. WOOD & CO.,** 23, Berkeley
Square, London, W.1.

HATFIELD, HERTS

£4,000 ONLY

WELL-BUILT HOUSE

in commanding position on the Great North Road.

3 RECEPTION, 8 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS.

MAIN SERVICES.

GARDEN.

Joint Agents: **MANDLEY & SPARROW,** Hatfield
(Tel. 3131), and **JOHN D. WOOD & CO.,**
23, Berkeley Square, W.1. (S.42,119)

HARPENDEN, HERTS

Near the common and station.
CHOICE MODERN HOUSE
in quiet position in best part of the town.



3 RECEPTION ROOMS, 5 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM
All in excellent order with central heating.
MAIN SERVICES AND GARAGE.
Productive garden with fruit trees.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: **HODGSON & FAULKNER,** 43, Market
Street, Watford; and **JOHN D. WOOD & CO.,**
23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (S.42,121)

MAYfair 6341
(10 lines)

23, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

Telegrams:
"Wood, Agents, Wesdo, London"

SACKVILLE HOUSE,
40, PICCADILLY, W.1
(Entrance in Sackville Street)

F. L. MERCER & CO.

REgent 2481
and 2295

SUSSEX

BEAUTIFUL SITUATION 10 MILES FROM THE COAST, 50 MILES LONDON

Gentleman's choice Residential and Small Stock Farm. For sale with either 3 or 43 ACRES

SUPERBLY CONSTRUCTED QUEEN ANNE STYLE RESIDENCE

LOW MAINTENANCE COSTS

OAK PANELLING. HIGH-QUALITY FEATURES

Lounge hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, 6 principal bedrooms, 2 modern bathrooms, 2 maids' bedrooms.

Main electricity and good water supply.

SUPERIOR COTTAGE

Garage and stabling block with flat over. Useful out-buildings including extensive pigsties, deep-litter poultry house, etc.

Well laid out inexpensive and beautifully timbered gardens with tennis court, the remainder comprising mostly pastureland with the exception of an area of woodland.

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., 40, Piccadilly, W.1.
Tel.: REgent 2481.

KENT. Between Ashford and Folkestone

On the outskirts of a village about 3½ miles from Hythe, 8 from Ashford and 8 from Folkestone, with excellent service of trains to and from London.



Extremely attractive Residence of character in the Queen Anne style of architecture. Beautifully fitted and easy to run. 3 reception, 7 beds, fitted basins, 2 bathrooms. Main water and electricity. Modern drainage. Garage for 3 cars. Cottage with 2 beds, 2 reception, kitchen and bath. Well laid out gardens and grounds, in all about 4 acres.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD.
Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co.

KINGSWOOD, SURREY

17 MILES LONDON

Overlooking farmlands and wood in Green Belt area.

A REAL GEM

in the way of a small modern residence, designed by present owner-architect and built 1938

LOUNGE, DINING ROOM, 3 BEDROOMS, TILED BATHROOM

Central heating. Main services.

GARAGE

Charming paved terrace and compact easily-run garden of about **HALF AN ACRE.**

FOR SALE AT £5,500

A home of most appealing and quite distinctive character.

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., 40, Piccadilly, W.1.
(Tel.: REgent 2481).

DORKING (Tel. 2212)
EFFINGHAM (Tel. Bookham 2801)
BOOKHAM (Tel. 2744)

CUBITT & WEST

FARNHAM (Tel. 5261)
HASLEMERE (Tel. 680)
HINDHEAD (Tel. 63)

HASLEMERE

Walking distance station. Excellent condition. Really rural, but most accessible.



SMALL MODERN HOUSE in a quiet lane, sun trap position. Very easily run, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, etc. Main water, gas and electric light and power. Central heating. Built-in garage. Easily-kept grounds, including paddock, woodland and small stream, in all 2¼ ACRES. **VERY LOW OUT-GOINGS** (All reasonable offers considered)

CUBITT & WEST, Haslemere Office. (HX 189)

LEATHERHEAD—DORKING GUILDFORD TRIANGLE

EXCELLENT MIXED DAIRY FARM OF SOME 123 ACRES

(More available if required)

FARMHOUSE—3 reception rooms, kitchen and bathroom and 4 bedrooms. Electricity (own plant), mains nearby.

ONE GOOD COTTAGE, 2 others (out of repair).

VERY GOOD EXTENSIVE FARM BUILDINGS, including cow standings, dairy, bull boxes and pens, calf boxes, pigsties, granary, numerous stores and barn, etc.

THE UNDULATING LAND overlies a chalk subsoil and comprises about **100 ACRES** of arable and pastureland and about **23 ACRES** useful woodland. Main water to most buildings and some fields.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Full details CUBITT & WEST, Dorking Office. (D 349)

OLD WORLD VILLAGE UNSPOILT WEST SUSSEX



GENUINE JACOBEOAN COTTAGE

beautifully modernised. In a peaceful setting. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, lounge hall, 3 fine reception rooms, kitchen, etc. Main water and electricity. Large garage. Inexpensive grounds of **2 ACRES**

PRICE FREEHOLD £6,900 (or reasonable offer)

CUBITT & WEST, Haslemere Office. (HX 186)

MAIDENHEAD
SUNNINGDALE

GIDDY & GIDDY

WINDSOR, SLOUGH
GERRARDS CROSS

LOVELY RIVERSIDE HOUSE

Overlooking the Bray Reach of the Thames.



ABOVE FLOOD LEVEL

4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, sun loggia, etc. Central heating. Oak floors. Double garage. Pleasant grounds of 1½ ACRES.

FREEHOLD. £5,750

Sole Agents: GIDDY & GIDDY, Maidenhead (Tel. 53).

IN IDEAL GOLFING COUNTRY

On the Wentworth Links. 1 mile Sunningdale



7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, etc. Central heating. Main services. Garage for 3 cars.

FREEHOLD FOR SALE WITH 2½ ACRES

GIDDY & GIDDY, Sunningdale. (Tel.: Ascot 73).

BETWEEN MAIDENHEAD AND HENLEY

Protected by acres of National Trust land. Near Temple Golf Course.



5 bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms (in suites), 3 reception rooms. Central heating. Polished wood floors. Garage for 2 cars. Gardens with tennis lawn and copple. **13¼ ACRES. £7,950**

Sole Agents: GIDDY & GIDDY, Maidenhead. (Tel. 53).

PURNELL, DANIELL & MORRELL

Marine Place, 143, High Street, 7, Exeter Road, Market Place,
SEATON (Tel. 117) HONITON (Tel. 404) EXMOUTH (Tel. 3775) SIDMOUTH (Tel. 958)

EAST DEVON

On favourite West Hill, near Ottery St. Mary. Easy reach Honiton, only 6 miles Sidmouth.

A RESIDENTIAL SMALLHOLDING OF ABOUT 3 ACRES

An attractive small modern Residence, most pleasantly situated on the edge of a Scotch fir plantation, within a few minutes' walk of the church and village,

and contains:

Lounge hall (26 ft. by 10 ft.) with cowled brick fireplace, dining room, sitting room, cloakroom, 3 nice bedrooms and bathroom, kitchen with Aga which also heats the water.

Central heating.

Main water and electricity.

Modern drainage.

GARAGE.

Small farmery, including

MODEL T.T. SHIPPON

for 2 cows,

PIGGERY,

poultry house and run.



Lovely garden and paddocks (further land probably available).

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Full details from the Agents, as above. S.4240.

ROBERT GEAR, A.A.L.P.A., F.V.I.

ESTATE AGENT, SHENFIELD. (Tel. Brentwood 888).

MILLS FARM, HUTTON

Electric and steam trains to Liverpool Street, 28 minutes.

AN ANCIENT ESSEX FARMHOUSE, modernised throughout and converted into a small country residence of absolute perfection.

Flawless decorative repair.

Convenient but secluded position.

4 bedrooms,
3 reception rooms,
2 beautifully appointed
bathrooms,
modern kitchen,
playroom in converted barn.

Garage for 3 cars.

Delightful grounds of
ABOUT 2 ACRES

(including viney, very fine
orchard, etc.) the whole in
immaculate condition.



PRICE £7,850 FREEHOLD

Sole Agent: ROBERT GEAR, Estate Agent, Shenfield (Tel.: Brentwood 888).

BOURNEMOUTH
SOUTHAMPTON

FOX & SONS

BRIGHTON
WORTHING

MID-SUSSEX

Occupying a pleasant rural position facing south and having uninterrupted views of the South Downs. Easy daily reach of London from Burgess Hill Station (1½ miles). Haywards Heath 4 miles, Brighton 10 miles.



An exceptionally attractive Modern Residence in good decorative order. 3 bedrooms, bathroom, lounge, dining room, kitchen, entrance hall.

All main services.

GARAGE

LOOSE BOX

Workshop and store room. Delightful gardens, orchard and paddock, in all about

2½ ACRES

PRICE £6,500

FREEHOLD

Vacant Possession

FOX & SONS, 117 and 118, Western Road, Brighton. Tel. Hove 39201 (7 lines)

PORTSMOUTH, WINCHESTER, PETERSFIELD Triangle

Over 300 feet above sea level, commanding lovely views to the south. In good decorative order throughout.

SMALL COUNTRY RESIDENCE close to good hunting



3 bedrooms, well equipped bathroom, 2-3 reception rooms, kitchen with Rayburn. Detached garage.

Main electricity. Water from artesian well.

EXCELLENT GARDEN of about ½ ACRE.

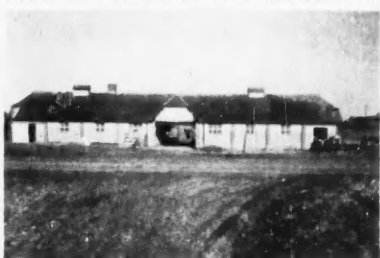
PRICE £4,500

FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 32, London Road, Southampton. (Tel. 3941/2).

DORSET

WITHIN EASY DISTANCE OF THE MARKET TOWN OF DORCHESTER VALUABLE POULTRY AND MIXED FARM OF ABOUT 230 ACRES



with manager's house containing 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, 3 pairs of exceptionally well built large cottages having modern conveniences. Fine range of houses including broader house of 3,600 capacity, 15 large block built houses, pigs, dairy and calf pens, excellent store and granary, hatchery buildings and numerous other houses. Incubator capacity over 38,000 (a new Secura installed this summer, capacity 11,000).

An additional 160 ACRES of hazel copse surrounding the farm could be purchased if desired.

For further particulars apply: FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. (Tel. 6300)

ON A WEST SUSSEX GOLF COURSE

Delightfully situated between the sea and the Downs, within easy reach of Worthing and Littlehampton.

CHARMING MODERN DETACHED RESIDENCE



Principal suite: bedroom, tiled bathroom and dressing room, 3 other bedrooms, 2nd bathroom, attractive lounge (about 23 ft. long), dining room with study annex, cloakroom, kitchen with Aga cooker.

All main services. Parquet flooring.

GARAGE

Secluded and well maintained garden.

PRICE £6,750 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 41, Chapel Road, Worthing. Tel. 6120 (3 lines).

Eminently suitable for Professional Occupation or Flat Conversion

CENTRAL BOURNEMOUTH

Within 5 minutes' walk of Town Centre

THE ATTRACTIVE DETACHED RESIDENCE



"Brackendens" 23 Wimborne Road. 4 principal and 4 secondary bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, kitchen and complete domestic offices.

GARAGE

Greenhouse. Brick and timber outbuildings. All main services. Part central heating. Attractive and secluded grounds extending to just over HALF AN ACRE

Vacant Possession

Held on 99 years' lease expiring 1976 at an annual ground rent of £10 10s.

To be Sold by Auction at St. Peter's Hall, Hinton Road, Bournemouth, on January 8, 1953, at 3 p.m. (unless previously sold by private treaty).

Solicitors: LUFF, RAYMOND & WILLIAMS, West Street, Wimborne, Dorset. Auctioneers: FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. (Tel. 6300)

ADJOINING THE NEW FOREST

2½ miles from main line station; 5 miles from Lymington. In ideal rural surroundings. A CHARMING RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

occupying a secluded position and enjoying a southern aspect. 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, maid's sitting room, cloakroom, excellent kitchen and domestic offices.

DOUBLE GARAGE

Numerous outbuildings. Main electricity and water. Aga cooker. Central heating. Beautifully matured gardens and grounds, productive kitchen garden, good orchard and paddock, the whole covering an area of about



5 ACRES. PRICE £7,500 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth (Tel. 6300).

NEW FOREST BORDERS

On a secluded site just off a main road, close to good bus services. Ramsey 4 miles. PERIOD FARMHOUSE RESIDENCE

requiring some renovation but with useful accommodation.

4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms including one with inglenook fireplace, studio, kitchen.

Hot-water system. Pumped well water.

GARAGE

Outbuildings. Garden and rough woodland about

1¼ ACRES



PRICE £3,250 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 32, London Road, Southampton. Tel. 3941/2.

DORSET

1½ miles from an interesting minster town. Standing 200 feet up with beautiful panoramic views.

IMPORTANT FAMILY RESIDENCE

offering complete seclusion but in no way isolated. 9 principal bed and dressing rooms, good secondary accommodation, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, billiards or play room, kitchen and complete domestic offices.

Main electricity, gas and water. Part central heating. Entrance lodge. Garages and excellent flat. Stabling. Well timbered grounds, walled kitchen garden, woodland and pasture lands.

Total area about



30 ACRES VACANT POSSESSION PRICE £12,500 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. (Tel. 6300).

HOVE, SUSSEX

In an excellent residential district on level ground close to the sea front, park and several bus routes including direct service to Brighton Station. Shops within easy reach.

WELL-PLANNED MODERN DETACHED CORNER RESIDENCE

comprising 4 bedrooms, tiled bathroom, separate w.c., panelled entrance hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, kitchen with domestic boiler.

DETACHED GARAGE

Pleasant garden with fruit trees, ornamental pond, etc.



PRICE £5,150 FREEHOLD OR OFFER. VACANT POSSESSION

For particulars apply FOX & SONS, 117-118, Western Road, Brighton. Tel. Hove 39201 (7 lines)

MID-SUSSEX

Within 2 miles of main line station to London. Brighton about 9 miles; London 43 miles.

THIS ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY RESIDENCE

in a secluded position in parklike surroundings with magnificent views over open country, standing well back from the road and screened by well matured trees. 5-7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms, cloakroom, excellent domestic offices. Main electricity and water. Modern drainage.

Outbuildings including cowstalls for 30, dairy, stabling, garage for 3-4 cars with rooms over, kennels, etc.



The gardens and grounds include tennis and other lawns, flower gardens, shrubberies, kitchen garden, etc., 2 greenhouses and vinery, small lake, several enclosures of pasture. Rough shooting available.

IN ALL ABOUT 31 ACRES. PRICE ONLY £9,500 FREEHOLD FOR QUICK SALE. VACANT POSSESSION

FOX & SONS, 117 and 118, Western Road, Brighton. Tel. Hove 39201 (7 lines).

41, BERKELEY SQUARE,
LONDON, W.1. GRO. 3056

LOFTS & WARNER

Also at OXFORD
And ANDOVER

£8,000—LEICESTERSHIRE

SUPERBLY APPOINTED COUNTRY HOUSE

In a wonderful position close to village.

Hall, 3 reception, 5 principal bedrooms, 4 luxuriously equipped bathrooms, secondary suite with sitting room, 3 bedrooms and bathroom, staff accommodation with 2 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms.

Central heating. Estate water. Main electricity.
Excellent outbuildings including hunter stabling.

3 COTTAGES

Lovely inexpensive gardens with paddocks, in all
22 ACRES

FOR SALE WITH VACANT POSSESSION (except 1 cottage).

AN ADJOINING FARM of 346 acres with farmhouse and 5 cottages available with possession if desired.

Sole Agents: TURNER, FLETCHER & ESSEX, Nottingham; LOFTS & WARNER, 14, St. Giles, Oxford, and as above.

UNEXPECTEDLY IN THE MARKET

SOMERSET

RESIDENTIAL AND SPORTING PROPERTY
2 miles from Bruton.



JACOBAN RESIDENCE. Hall, 3 reception, 5 principal bedrooms, 3 secondary and nursery suite, 3 bathrooms. Central heating. Main water. Private electricity. 2 Cottages, T.T. Buildings. Inexpensive gardens. High quality pasture, in all **376 ACRES. FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION.**

Sole Agents: LOFTS & WARNER, 4, New Street, Andover, or as above.

By direction of Exors.

HAMPSHIRE

Longparish, near Andover.

ATTRACTIVE FREEHOLD RESIDENCE

of outstanding merit, pleasantly situated in open country adjoining the village.

HALL, 3 RECEPTION, 4 PRINCIPAL and 2 SECONDARY BEDROOMS, BATHROOM.

Main electricity. Excellent water supply.

GARAGE

Outbuildings, lovely old garden

JUST OVER ONE ACRE

FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION

Sole Agents: LOFTS & WARNER, 4, New Street, Andover (Tel. 2433), and as above.

56, BAKER STREET,
LONDON, W.1.

DRUCE & Co., Ltd.

ESTABLISHED 1822
WELbeck 4488 (20 lines)

NEAR CANTERBURY

ATTRACTIVE DETACHED RESIDENCE
In main road position on a screened woodland site.
Completely modernised and restored.



4½ ACRES in all, 4 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, kitchen and bathroom. Garage. Main water. Electricity. Cesspool drainage.

BARGAIN £4,500 FREEHOLD C.2583.

BERKS—HANTS BORDERS

PICTURESQUE BLACK AND WHITE TUDOR COTTAGE

set amidst **5 ACRES**

Heavily beamed lounge-dining room (24 ft. by 17 ft. 6 in.), sitting room, kitchen with Aga and Agamatic, 3-4 double bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Full central heating. Main electricity, water. Modern drainage. 2 garages.

£7,750 FREEHOLD C.2579.

CRANBROOK, KENT

Scheduled as a building of architectural and historical interest.

BEAMED AND BEAUTIFULLY GABLED TUDOR HOUSE

5 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, kitchen, bathroom. Small secluded garden.

ALL MAIN SERVICES

£3,650 FREEHOLD

Wanted For Waiting Applicants
HOUSES, COTTAGES, BUNGALOWS
OF CHARACTER

WITHIN 40-50 MILE RADIUS LONDON

MARGATE

Situated in finest residential district of Palm Bay.

MAGNIFICENT DETACHED DOUBLE-FRONTED HOUSE

divided into 2 self-contained flats with full vacant possession.

FIRST FLOOR

Lounge hall, 3 double bedrooms (2 with hand basins) modern bathroom, separate w.c., large kitchen, fitted refrigerator, lounge-dining room. Dual hot-water system.

GROUND FLOOR

2 double bedrooms, large lounge, morning room, kitchen with refrigerator, modern bathroom. Dual hot-water system.

¼ ACRE well-cultivated garden. Heated greenhouse.

GARAGE

£6,000 FREEHOLD.

Sole Agents.

R. B. TAYLOR & SONS

16, PRINCES STREET, YEOVIL (Tel. 2074-6), SHERBORNE (99), BRIDGWATER (3456-7), 16, MAGDALEN STREET, EXETER (56043)

SHERBORNE 4 MILES

CHARMING OLD-WORLD STONE AND THATCHED COTTAGE IN DELIGHTFUL VILLAGE

3 rec., kitchen, 4 beds., boxroom, bathroom. Useful outbuildings. Modern conveniences. Garden and orchard

IN ALL ABOUT 1 ACRE. £4,500

YEOVIL 8 MILES, SPARKFORD 4 MILES

OLD-WORLD COTTAGE RESIDENCE, CONSTRUCTED OF STONE WITH THATCHED ROOF

2 large rec. rooms, kitchen with Rayburn, 3 beds., bathroom. Main electricity and water. Modern drainage. Attractive garden **½ ACRE.** Useful outbuildings.

GARAGE FOR 2. £3,950

SHERBORNE 5 MILES

MODERNISED COTTAGE RESIDENCE

2 rec., 3 beds., kitchen, bathroom and w.c. Main electricity and water. Garden. More land available if required.

PRICE £1,950

NEAR LANGPORT

MODERNISED COUNTRY COTTAGE RESIDENCE

of stone and brick with thatched roof

2 reception rooms, kitchen with Rayburn, 3 bedrooms, bathroom.

GARAGE

Garden and orchard

¼ ACRE

Main water and electricity.

Septic tank drainage.



PRICE £2,500

6, CHURCH ST., REIGATE.
4, BRIDGE ST., LEATHERHEAD
31, SOUTH ST., DORKING

A. R. & J. GASCOIGNE-PEES

Tel.: REIGATE 4422-3
Tel.: LEATHERHEAD 4133-4
Tel.: DORKING 4071-2

BETWEEN REIGATE & DORKING

In lovely rural surroundings.



AN ATTRACTIVE ALL WHITE AND BLUE SHUTTERED MODERN COTTAGE. Oak-studded front door, "through" lounge, cosy dining room, 3 bedrooms, all with cupboards, tiled bathroom, kitchen, brick garage. **¾ ACRE** of garden backing and fronting farmland.

PRICE £4,500 FREEHOLD

For full particulars apply Dorking Office.

A HOUSE OF DISTINCTION

Occupying a fine position in favoured Kingswood, London 40 mins. Close Walton Heath and Kingswood Golf Courses.



WELL BUILT AND BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED to contain 3 reception rooms (all facing south), 5 bedrooms and 2 lovely bathrooms, playroom, superb labour-saving kitchen, cloakroom. Complete central heating. Garage.

¾ ACRE of easily maintained garden.

PRICE £8,250 FREEHOLD

For full particulars apply Reigate office.

BETWEEN EPSOM & LEATHERHEAD

Sought-after high ground near Ashted village.



ATTRACTIVE STYLE MODERN HOME with central heating, flush doors and polished floors. Double aspect lounge (21ft. x 13ft.), dining room, sun loggia, hall with downstairs cloakroom, splendid kitchen, 5 bedrooms, (2 with basins), boxroom, tiled bathroom. Built-in garage.

¾ ACRE garden.

PRICE £6,500 FREEHOLD

Full particulars from Leatherhead Office.



JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF

8, HANOVER STREET, LONDON, W.1

CIRENCESTER, NORTHAMPTON, LEEDS, YEOVIL, CHICHESTER, CHESTER, NEWMARKET AND DUBLIN

MAYFAIR
3316/7

FOR SALE AT PRE-WAR FIGURE SOMERSET-DORSET-WILTS BORDER A MOST ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE

in a beautiful woodland setting.



5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms,
3 reception rooms, kitchen
(Aga).
Oak floors practically
throughout.
Central heating.
Outbuildings.
Garage.

Kitchen garden and shrub
woodland about **5 ACRES**

With or without cottage.

VACANT POSSESSION. FREEHOLD.

Sole Agents: **JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, Yeovil (Tel. 1066).**

A LARGE MANSION

4 miles from Horsham, Sussex.



The house, built in 1913,
is in first-class order and
contains 7 reception
rooms, 24 bedrooms,
6 bathrooms, ample do-
mestic offices. Central
heating.

Extensive garages, stab-
ling and outbuildings.

Squash and badminton
courts.

6 MODERN COTTAGES

APPROXIMATELY 40 ACRES

JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 8, Hanover Street, W.1 (MAYfair 3316/7)

FRESH IN THE MARKET FLORE GRANGE. NEAR NORTHAMPTON

ELIZABETHAN RESIDENCE MAGNIFICENTLY APPOINTED
and standing in well timbered grounds.

3 reception rooms, 6 prin-
cipal bedrooms, 3 bath-
rooms, secondary bed-
rooms.

Central heating. Main
services.

Secluded grounds of
2 ACRES

Paddock of 10 acres.
Gardener's cottage.

**For Sale at a reasonable
figure by order of the
Executors.**



Joint Sole Agents: Messrs. **HOWKINS, SONS & FATT, Derigate,**
Northampton (Tel. 2626); Messrs. JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF,
20, Bridge Street, Northampton (Tel. 32990/1).

LOVELY MODERNISED 15th-CENTURY HOUSE

In complete seclusion on the rural edge of Crawley.

3-4 reception rooms,
5 principal and 2 second-
ary bedrooms, 2 bath-
rooms, kitchen, cloakroom.

GARAGE
MAIN WATER, GAS
AND ELECTRICITY.

Pretty garden with
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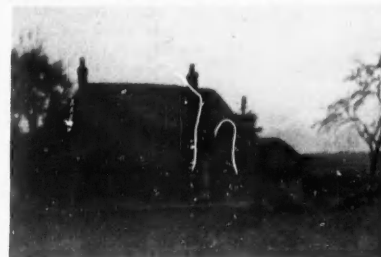
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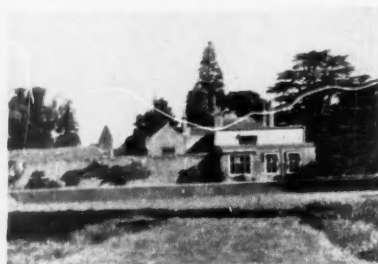
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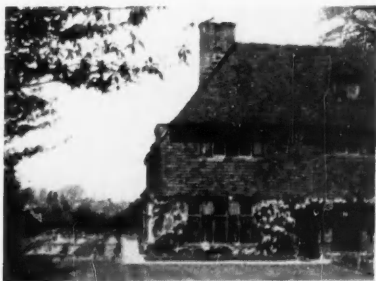
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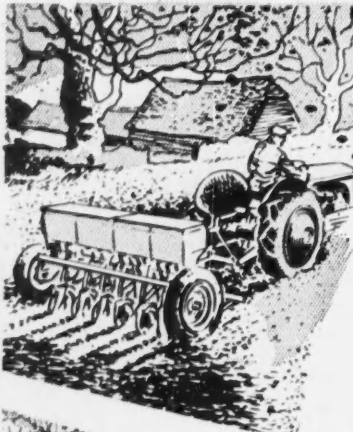
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COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CXIII No. 2920

JANUARY 2, 1953



Bassano

THE HONOURABLE LAURA SMITH

The Hon. Laura Smith is the elder daughter of Viscountess Hambleden, of the Manor House, Hambleden, near Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire

COUNTRY LIFE

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NEW GARDENS FOR NEW PLANTS

IN the past hundred years there has been an enormous increase in the diversity of ornamental plants available for cultivation in British gardens. The increase has occurred partly as a result of plant-hunting expeditions in previously unexplored parts of the world, and partly as a result of intensive hybridisation and selection by plant breeders. Moreover, throughout this period the rate of increase has tended to grow greater and there is as yet not the slightest sign of slackening in the progressive acceleration. This sudden advent of plant wealth has not been without its embarrassments for gardeners. The plain fact is that they have not yet learnt how to use this great variety of plants to best advantage and that there has been a growing tendency in recent years for gardens to become collections of plants rather than essays in design.

No one is more acutely aware of this trend than professional landscape architects, many of whom have been quick to condemn the formlessness of some of the most famous gardens of the day. Unfortunately it is far easier to criticise than to construct, and it cannot be said that present trends of professional design, with their emphasis on a return to formality, are calculated to give much help to the gardener who is really interested in plants. The matter was recently debated at some length at the Institute of Landscape Architects between Miss Sylvia Crowe and Mr. L. Milner White. The latter explained the landscape architect's problem very clearly when he remarked that he now finds that one of the most important elements in garden design is represented by a string of Latin names which it will take him a lifetime to learn or to identify with the plants they represent. It may be observed that even when he has achieved this knowledge it is of little value without an appreciation of the conditions under which each plant will thrive, a knowledge of its approximate rate of growth and a clear mental picture of its appearance at each stage of growth. No wonder that some landscape architects have given up the task in despair and fallen back on the simple but unsatisfactory solution of making their designs on paper, leaving it to the gardener to fill them in with suitable plants.

The heart of the problem was touched, though its solution was barely hinted at, when Mr. White emphasised that in the past the introduction of new plant material had always encouraged the development of new forms of garden design. To a certain extent that is true of garden design to-day, much of which is still based on the ideas of the Robinson-Jekyll school which was itself inspired by the influx of new species in the second half of the 19th century. But that is a revolution already more than fifty years old, since when so much new material has been added that the Robinsonian garden is in danger of losing all sense of proportion. The

herbaceous border has deteriorated into the mixed border in which space must be found for dahlias, chrysanthemums and other bedding plants; the shrub border has become so diversified in material that any form it once possessed is in danger of being completely obliterated; and the wild garden has become heterogeneous to the point of utter confusion.

That is the problem facing the landscape architect to-day, and it cannot be solved by an escape into a new formalism which rejects 99 per cent. of the plants which have been procured by the enterprise of gardeners, explorers and scientists. Miss Crowe's analogy with the case of the painter whose palette is suddenly enriched with a whole new range of colours is surely the right one. She concluded that the artist must learn to use every one of those colours even if he produced some appallingly bad pictures in the process. So must the landscape architect learn to use the new plants.

FOREIGN FARM WORKERS

MANY farms employ one or two foreigners, most of them Germans or Italians who were prisoners of war or Poles who have had to leave their country, and they are usually good workmen who get on well with their fellows. Most of them have settled down and will, no doubt, in due course qualify for British citizenship. The Minister of Agriculture was asked recently in the House of Commons to instruct the county agricultural executive committee to get the foreign workers on one Berkshire farm replaced by Englishmen. He said he would not,

THE SHEPHERD

*US says in Oxfordshire when snow be a-layin'
It be a-waitin' for more as is hid up on high;
White streaks up the furrow, snowflakes a-playin'
Like a jumble o' daisies, tells I the weather;
See, they clouds be grey as a pigeon's feather,
The moon g'es a queerish light in the sky,
In this flayin' wind I thinks o' my sheep—
Be they grins and* fields never so dazlin' white—
It be dangerous for 'en if drifts do blow deep,
Aye, snow be a-comin'—a-comin' to-night.*

DOROTHY GASKELL.

* Greensward or pasture.

and that it was not the function of the committees to submit workers for employment with individual farmers. It would, indeed, be an intolerable interference for the committees to dictate whom a farmer should employ or should not employ. Their sole concern is with food production, and in some districts, such as the neighbourhood of the atomic stations in Berkshire where this suggestion has arisen, it is really necessary to supplement the depleted supply of English farm labour. The total of regular male workers on farms has fallen by nearly 50,000 in the last two years.

RENT ANOMALIES

FURTHER proof, if any be needed, that rent is a national problem of the first importance is afforded by the *Reports of the Development Corporations to March 31, 1952* (Stationery Office, 15s.). The corporations express serious concern about the high rents that are having to be charged for houses and flats in the new towns. It is pointed out that unlike the ordinary local authority the corporations are governed by the Rent Restriction Acts and cannot raise the rents of older properties or provide additional subsidies out of rates. The anomalies in the present position are driven home by the recent announcement that the London County Council is to raise the rents of over 130,000 houses and flats by an average of 2s. 6d. a week because of increased costs of management and maintenance. Yet the private landlord who cannot draw on other resources as the L.C.C. draws on rates has to leave repairs undone and watch his property fall into decay. The disparity in rents between old and new houses is a reflection on high building costs which the new town corporations cannot disguise by subsidies. The lifting of some of the licensing restrictions on private building, which Mr. Harold Macmillan announced just before the Parliamentary recess,

is to be welcomed not only for the increased opportunities it affords for home ownership, but for the impetus it gives to competition and the economical planning of programmes in the building industry. As pre-war experience showed, these vital factors keep costs down.

GOOD MANNERS IN ARCHITECTURE

THE controversy that has been raging in Paris over the design of the Unesco headquarters building is exactly of the kind that might and no doubt will take place here when the rebuilding of war-damaged cities begins. Like Messrs. Peachum and Lockit, both parties strike us as having been wrong in the first round, fought over the Bois de Boulogne site. The international architects proposed a very tall and featureless erection, allegedly functional but as devoid of other architectural virtues as the U.N.O. building in New York, which it is difficult to regard as architecture at all, whatever its advantages (which have been questioned) as an office-machine. The Prefecture of the Seine, having at heart the character and amenities of the Bois, turned this proposal down flat, rightly in our opinion, but foolishly went on to stipulate a design in modified 18th-century style which Unesco properly refused to consider. The dispute was really one of company manners. Nobody has the right, whatever they may think, to commit a colossal and permanent visual solecism disregarding the historic scenery of its neighbourhood. But equally it is silly to insist on periwigs, even if streamlined, being worn. Now a site has been offered by the Government, without strings, large enough for the building to spread instead of climbing, and to be as contemporary as is desired without causing visual offence. But, if they are wise, the Unesco architects will have learnt the lesson summed up by Lutyens in "architecture begins where function ends."

NETTING WILD GESE

THE latest bulletin of the Severn Wildfowl Trust records further progress in the Trust's project of capturing wild geese with nets fired by rockets. During an expedition to Scotland and the North of England in October and November no fewer than 1,219 geese, nearly all of them pinkfeet, were caught. In all, the Trust has now ringed over 3,400 pink-footed geese in less than three years. This research, the object of which is to form an estimate of the population of these geese on the basis of the proportion of ringed birds that are recaptured, inevitably involves disturbing them and causing a number of casualties, and has been criticised in more than one quarter on that score. Fortunately both the disturbance and the casualties appear to be slight. The new rockets, which are flashless and smokeless, seemingly cause the geese little disturbance. After one catch some 400 geese flew less than a quarter of a mile, and the captured birds, as soon as they were released, flew straight down to join them. That presupposes less disturbance than is sometimes caused by a couple of shots from a twelve-bore and certainly less than is occasioned by a low-flying aeroplane. Again, the proportion of casualties (caused by the birds either being hit by the rocket or injuring themselves in the net) is now only 1.2 per cent., and no doubt with greater experience and improved techniques will be brought still lower.

THE RYDER CUP

PREPARATIONS for the next Ryder Cup match between the golf professionals of Great Britain and the United States at Wentworth next October are wisely being begun betimes. We are told that neighbouring clubs are being asked to provide stewards, and that already there are over a thousand noble volunteers for this exhausting task. Apparently each club will be given a hole to control, and that is a good plan, for the stewards will thus have a team spirit to encourage them to do their job better than their neighbours. This match has never before been played near London, and there will doubtless be a vast crowd. Whether anybody will see much seems dubious, but the money will pour in, which is presumably of the greatest importance.

A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By

Major C. S. JARVIS

I FIND that I was doing our statistic *wallahs* an injustice when in some recent Notes I mentioned that one of the few things they had overlooked where figures were concerned was the record number of acorns that have been found in a wood-pigeon's crop. A correspondent has reminded me that in a Badminton Library book on shooting, published some years ago, it is stated that 63 normal-sized acorns were found in the crop of a normal-sized wood-pigeon, and, improbable as it may sound, one must accept this figure in view of the reliable source of the information.

In many cases where a bird, beast or fish fails to realise that its eyes may be bigger than its stomach it pays the extreme penalty, and some years ago I found lying on the bank of a small stream the body of a heron, which had died from asphyxiation during its attempt to swallow a 2-lb. fish that was firmly jammed in its gullet. Unfortunately the bird had been dead for two or three days, so that the cause of its death, a remarkably fine specimen of a pink-fleshed trout, was not in a fit condition to be put in the basket. One reads accounts also of pike being found which have died from the same cause, and some years ago one was netted on a local river with a sea-trout nearly as large as itself jammed in its jaws and half-way down its throat. This pike was alive when it was caught in the net, so that it is uncertain whether it would eventually have died of asphyxiation or whether its gastric juices would have been sufficiently active to digest gradually the portion in its throat.

I HAVE heard recently of a robin, which, after watching a blackbird performing its usual task of scattering the dead leaves from the side of a garden path, flew down to ascertain if anything edible had been overlooked, and which a moment later was seen to be struggling with what appeared to be the largest earth-worm in the world. The worm writhed and fought to escape, but eventually the robin seemed to break off a portion of its tail, which, after a prolonged effort, it just managed to swallow. My informant, who had watched the struggle from a window, then went out to look at the "worm," which was still squirming about on the grass, and discovered that it was not an earth-worm, but a slow-worm, which in accordance with the custom of this reptile had shed its tail. I conclude that it must have been a particularly small specimen of this legless lizard, since the portion of its tail which the average-sized slow-worm casts when interfered with is much too large to go down the gullet of even the greediest robin.

ON the principle that in this world one does not, or very seldom, get something for nothing, one does have to pay a quite substantial price for the tuneful song of the blackbird, which we hear all the hours of daylight and even after dusk during the spring. In most parts of the country it is absolutely essential to grow all one's strawberries, raspberries and currants in an expensive wire-enclosure if one wishes to obtain any fruit at all for the house, and when the resident blackbirds have ceased to find their way through undetected faults in the wire-netting they devote their attention to the plums and cherries, which are beginning to ripen. After this the apple crop keeps them fully occupied for the next three months, and in the orchard they afford constant evidence that they are very good judges of apples, since it is always in the branches of the choice eating varieties—Cox's Orange Pippins and Worcester Pearmain—that one notices the flutter of black wings.



G. Douglas Bolton

PANTILES AND STONE: PRESTON MILL, EAST LOTHIAN

Then when the orchards are bare and no more fruit is available, the blackbird seems to spend his entire time on the garden paths and lawn verges scattering in every direction the dead leaves which in the interests of tidiness the gardener has swept up into orderly rows and heaps the previous day.

THE interesting article *Sheep Dogs of the Hills*, which appeared in a recent issue of COUNTRY LIFE, reminds me of an episode that I was endeavouring to recall in these Notes some months ago. This was a case of a dog putting into an enclosure designed for domestic animals a wild creature, which it had come across in its wanderings. The story that I now remember was told to the assembled sight-seers during the presentation of prizes at the conclusion of the International Sheep Dog Trials in Scotland in 1933, and it described an incident that had happened at a small local trial of these dogs when a poor shepherd-boy turned up with a raggle-taggle collie to enter for the competition. The judges good-naturedly decided to let him have a try, and told the boy to round up and put in the hurdled enclosure a small and widely-scattered flock of sheep on the steep mountainside.

The boy accompanied by his dog set off at a steady trot up the slope, and to everyone's amazement they returned in a short time with the half-dozen sheep, which in due course were skilfully negotiated into the enclosure. After

this the dog sat down at the entrance to the pen to keep his eye on the sheep, and the boy when congratulated on the performance agreed that "they had come in fine." "But," he added, "I had a bit of trouble on the way down with the wee brun-yun," and it was then seen that crouching among the penned sheep there was a wild mountain hare.

THOSE of us who live in the southern counties are denied the pleasure and interest of watching these interesting sheep dog trials, which take place frequently in Scotland, Wales and the Dale country, and during which one obtains such convincing evidence of the intelligence of the dogs and their enthusiasm for work. In the south of England, where wide grazing areas are as a rule not available and the small flocks of sheep are kept for most of the year in hurdled enclosures on the crops, there is little work for a collie.

One such dog of Scottish origin, who belonged to a local farmer, became so bored with the lack of the right sort of occupation that he filled in his time by fetching the dairy herd to the milking shed twice a day. On occasions also he would even demean himself by rounding up the hens of the farm, if towards dusk they were seen to be straying too close to a fox-haunted wood, but there was always an ashamed look in his eyes when he returned after performing this most plebeian task.

THE REGENT'S PARK COLOSSEUM

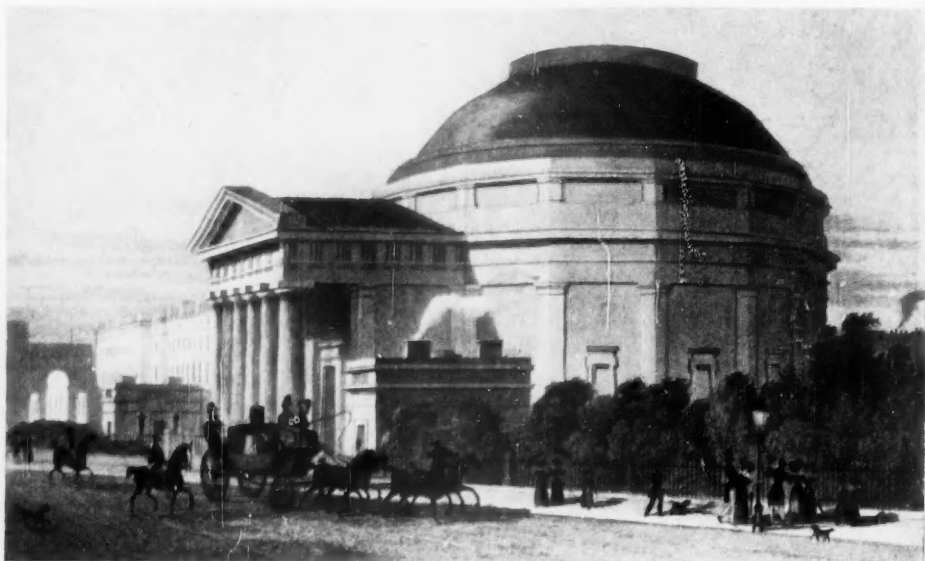
By HUGH HONOUR

WHEN the ball and cross on the dome of St. Paul's Cathedral were being repaired in 1822, Thomas Hornor, an unsuccessful landscape gardener and surveyor, built on the scaffolding, high above the cross itself, a cabin from which he commanded an unrestricted view. Here, not without peril, working from the earliest daylight hours in order to see the city unclouded by smoke, he made some 2,000 sketches, intending originally to publish a series of engravings and later to build a vast panorama of London.

Later he took a plot of ground in Regent's Park on a Crown lease of 99 years at £262 18s. a year, and commissioned Decimus Burton—who had built for his father, James Burton, the builder responsible for laying out much of Bloomsbury, a villa near the site chosen—to design a suitable hall. Thus the Colosseum, with a dome which was 126 ft. across and 112 ft. above the ground in the centre, was begun by an architect aged 23. The building, finished in 1827, met with considerable praise and was called the Colosseum because of its colossal size, and architectural critics hastened to remind their readers that it had no connection with the building of the same name in Rome, indicating that it was really a Grecian version of the Pantheon. A later writer suggested that it owed something to Canova's Temple at Possagno, which was begun in 1819, but had a much lighter appearance.

The Colosseum was a 16-sided building with walls 64 ft. high outside and 79 within; its surface was decorated with antae at the corners and false windows. Entrance was through a hexa-style Doric portico. On either side of it were handsome lodges of the same order. James Elmes in *Metropolitan Improvements* said that the portico was "one of the finest and best proportioned of the Greco-Doric in the Metropolis," and Samuel Rogers, the banker poet, declared that the whole building was "finer than anything among the remains of architectural art in Italy."

While Hornor was busy sketching in his



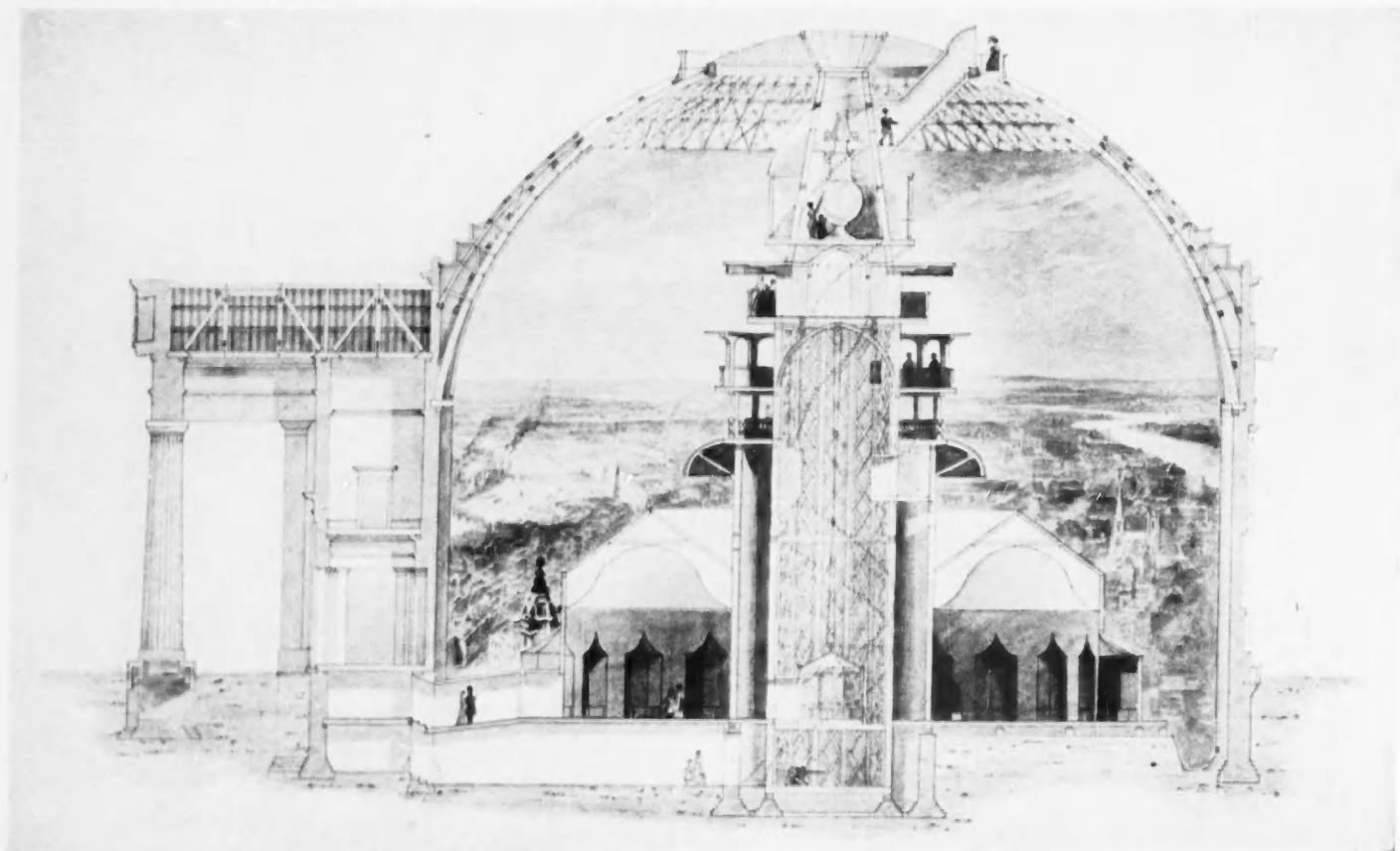
1.—THE COLOSSEUM IN REGENT'S PARK. IT WAS BEGUN IN 1819, TO THE DESIGNS OF DECIMUS BURTON, FINISHED IN 1827 AND DEMOLISHED IN 1875

insecure crow's-nest a young artist, E. T. Parris, put a design for a scaffolding from which Thornhill's paintings inside the dome of St. Paul's might be restored or repainted before the Dean and Chapter, who rejected it. Hornor, however, saw that this was the man needed to transform his sketches into paint on the interior walls of the Colosseum. Consequently Parris, with a number of not wholly satisfactory assistants, began painting on September 25, 1825. "Standing in a basket, supported by two loose poles, and lifted to a great height by ropes," he worked until he had covered some 40,000 sq. ft. of wall on November 29 four years later.

On August 2, 1827, a notice of the imminent

opening of the Colosseum appeared in *The Times*. Although many visitors contrived to get in, it was still not open in September next year, when Hornor wrote to the same newspaper to apologise for the delay and whet the public appetite. Later that year Rowland Stevenson, the banker who had provided the money, left the country and was soon followed by Hornor, who absconded to America, leaving debts of £60,000. The creditors decided to take over the concern and paid Parris to continue working.

The official opening of the Colosseum was on January 10, 1829, before the painting had been completed. Nevertheless, visitors flocked to



2.—DECIMUS BURTON'S SECTION OF THE COLOSSEUM, SHOWING THE CENTRAL LIFT

Regent's Park to be surprised and impressed. The Duchess of Clarence went in June. Early visitors had the chance of seeing Parris suspended in a cradle putting the finishing touches to the panorama. But the completion did not satisfy the hopes stimulated at the first opening; the fountain that had been described with such enthusiasm before it had been finished lost its central figure, a sleeping Undine by Sivier, and was considered by *The Times* to be a "tawdry commonplace piece of work." Furthermore, the price of admission was considered too high. The trustees were naturally unwilling to pay out any more than was necessary and were determined to reap every penny they could.

Visitors to the Colosseum, in the first period of its existence, between 1829 and 1831, arrived under the massive portico, which was arranged as a *porte-cochère*, and went into a lofty rectangular room, the walls and pillars of which were painted in imitation of white and Sienna marble. From this vestibule there were staircases leading to the three galleries and a corridor to the centre of the rotunda—the Saloon of Arts in which it was intended that exhibitions should be held. Festooned with draperies, it was "arranged in imitation of an immense tent." Around the outside were statues by Sivier and San Giovanni, seats and tables; it was intended "for a place of rest or for promenade." In the centre was a circular enclosure from which two spiral staircases led to the upper part of the building. For those willing to take the risk was a device both novel and exciting: "a small coved room, which will contain from ten to twenty persons, and may be raised by secret machinery, with its company, to the first gallery." It appears to have been worked by a hand winch and was probably the earliest public lift in this country.

The "ascending room" took visitors to the first gallery, which was made in imitation of the scaffolding which had been above St. Paul's. Beneath them they saw the top of the dome of the saloon and, looking past the painted western towers, completing the illusion, they scanned the view of London that Hornor had studied. Binoculars might be hired and books were sold with skeleton views and keys to indicate what the buildings were. One critic remarked that the only thing needed to give perfect reality was the noise of striking clocks; these were supplied in time. From the first two galleries the intrepid advanced up steps, round the old ball from the cathedral and replica of the cross, to a platform, on which stood the little cabin used when the sketches were made. This gave a more distant view and connected with the skylight, whence the real London panorama could be seen.

After the visitor had descended there was more for him to inspect. In the grounds Hornor had "sunk deep ravines, cut subterranean caves, raised lofty banks, congregated rocks together, carried reservoirs to the tops of houses, and formed extensive and beautiful conservatories." In these conservatories were many fine and exotic plants, including what the *Literary Gazette* called "the most magnificent specimen of the *Camellia Japonica* in the country." An underground passage led to a Swiss cottage designed by P. F. Robinson, the architect of many cottages *ornés* and author of *Village Architecture*. From the windows of this picturesque building might be seen "a view of a mass of rock scenery, ornamented with water-falls of singular contrivance and singular effect." John Britton remarked that "valley and hill, rock and cataract, pine forest, glaciers, and snow-capped Alps, constitute a sort of solitude presenting no sign of social or civilized life: a vista, where depth, and height, and expanse, seem to beguile the eye and deceive the senses."

John Braham bought the Colosseum in 1831 for £40,000. The son of a Portuguese Jew, he was one of the most famous tenor singers of his time; so great was his success as Max in the first English production of *Der Freischütz* at the Lyceum in 1824 that Weber wrote the part of Sir Huon in *Oberon* for him. Having made a fortune, he purchased not only the Colosseum but also St. James's Theatre. He saw at once that frequent changes would have to be made if the show place were to succeed, but his changes were not all successful. Two Marine

Caverns with sea views were built, the African Glen filled with stuffed animals and birds was added, and theatrical limelight was diffused from the top of the dome by night. But the largest addition was a hall opening on to Albany Street which was "enpanelled with looking glass" and decorated with painted birds and scroll ornaments by one of the Crace family, possibly the decorator of the Royal Pavilion at Brighton. At night looking-glasses were used as shutters to the windows and Henshall wrote an enthusiastic account of this Hall of Mirrors: "The whole scene is one effulgent blaze of splendour, perpetually changing as the spectator varies his position, and presenting new combinations of elegance and beauty in endless succession, exceeding the most florid descriptions of oriental magnificence, and realising the most brilliant romances of fairy enchantment."

by the magistrates. Braham lost heavily, sold it by auction for 23,000 gns. in 1843, and was forced to return once more to the stage and concert room. In age he was supported by his daughter, who became the celebrated hostess, the Countess of Waldegrave.

The new purchaser was David Montague, who, according to John Timbs, "altogether retrieved and elevated the artistic character of the establishment." He employed a Mr. Bradwell, a "well known theatrical mechanist" who had worked at Covent Garden, and together they made many alterations. The Colosseum was re-opened with a private view for the Queen and the Prince Consort on May 3, 1845.

"The first glance of the visitor," the guide-book declared, "will render it unnecessary to assure him that the outlay has been enormous; and that a higher feeling than a mere object of



3.—AQUATINT OF THE INTERIOR IN 1829, SHOWING E. T. PARRIS, SLUNG IN A BASKET, PAINTING THE WALLS WITH A PANORAMA OF LONDON

Concerts were given here by Mr. Boscher, the harpist, who included in his repertoire a survey of music since 1500 and a Musical Tour. Copies, by C. Thompson, of antique statues were introduced to the Saloon of Arts. In spite of a visit from the Queen in 1835, the reputation of the place was deteriorating. W. H. Leeds remarked that by 1838 the new rooms had been "converted into a place of evening 'entertainment for man and beast' at the moderate rate of a shilling admission-refreshment ticket, alias ticket for gin and water included!" A letter written some years afterwards refers to it as a "sink of vice" which had to be suppressed

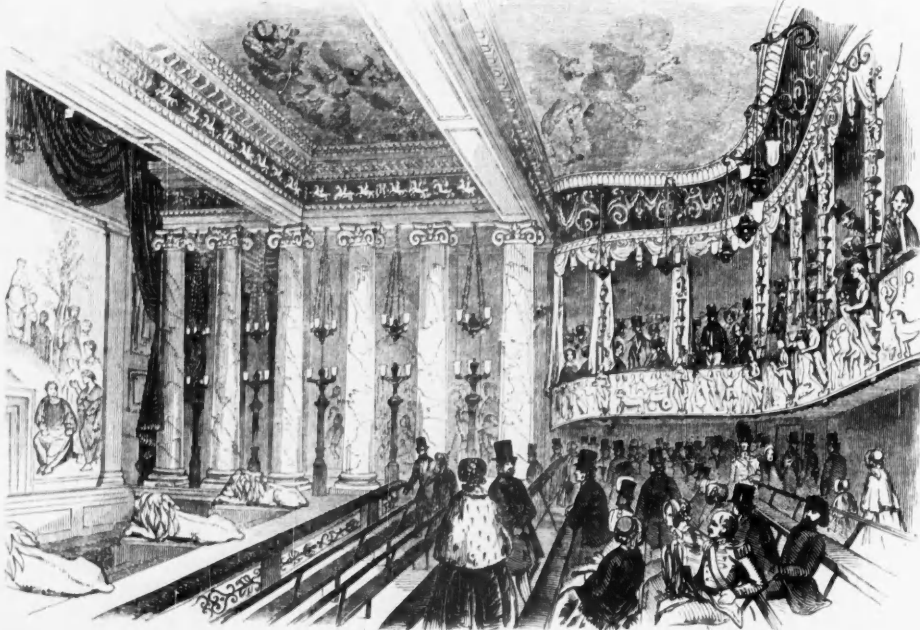
gain must have prompted so lavish an expenditure." The tone was raised considerably. The Museum of Sculpture was now called the Glyptotheka and the draperies of 1829 had been banished. Ionic columns supported a frieze on which was modelled the whole Panathenaic procession taken from the Elgin marbles by Henning, the son of the sculptor whom Burton had employed at the Athenaeum Club. Above this was a series of allegorical paintings by John Absolon and then a dome of "richly-cut glass." Capitals, figures and mouldings by Henning were in profusion, all richly gilt. As before, the public could go up to the galleries by stairs or lift, but the



4.—THE GLYPTOTHEKA, OR MUSEUM OF SCULPTURE, IN THE COLOSSEUM, 1845

"ascending room" had been decorated in Elizabethan style with a roof of stained glass; it was probably at this time that the exterior steam engine was installed to take the place of the more primitive machinery. Parris repainted the panorama and provided, as well, one of London by night which was substituted each evening. Or the roof a camera obscura had been constructed. The entrance from Albany Street was improved to "remind the Italian tourist of the Vatican." A Gothic aviary was built, "such," the guide-book says, "as Isabella of Castille might be supposed to have constructed amidst the relics of a moorish palace; or Abu-Abdullah, with true Arabian gallantry, to have conjured up for the solace of some fair Christian captive within the walls of his own Alhambra." For the rocks and caverns of the landscape gardener were substituted copies of real ruins, a temple of Vesta, the arch of Titus and others, moving the guide to quote from *Childe Harold*. Underground there were stalactite caverns modelled on those of Adelsberg. Outside the windows of the Swiss cottage a mountain torrent rushed down into a lake beyond which Mont Blanc and other recognisable peaks could be discerned.

Montague found, as had Braham, that



5.—THEATRE FOR THE EXHIBITION OF A CYCLORAMA, OR SERIES OF MOVABLE PICTURES, 1848

it was offered for sale the auctioneer claimed that £200,000 had been spent on it, but as only one-tenth of that sum was bid it was withdrawn. In 1857 Dr Bachhoffner took it over and opened it once again. A handbill of 1858, on which it is called the Royal Colosseum under the patronage of the Queen and Prince Consort, advertises, in addition to the panorama and cyclorama, lectures on Curiosities of Vision and on China, "illustrating life among the Celestials," a divertissement with "humorous ballads and Bufo songs" by Mr. George Buckland and a display of conjuring, all for one shilling.

The concern was taken over by George Buckland in 1863 and closed before the end of the year.

No further tenant was willing to take the white elephant. A forlorn sight, with the stucco flaking off to reveal the brickwork, it stood empty and desolate. In 1870 *The Times* announced that it was about to be pulled down and in 1874 prematurely published its obituary. Next year it was demolished and Cambridge Terrace was built on its site. The architect who had built it as his first astonishing success lived to see it vanish.

Illustrations: 2, *Victoria and Albert Museum*; 4, 5, and 6, *Illustrated London News*.



6.—THE SWISS ARMOURY, OR REFRESHMENT ROOM

COUNTRY CENTENARIES OF 1953

By GARTH CHRISTIAN

I HAVE heard those who loved the country, and loved it because they knew it, say that the opening of Bewick was a new era in their lives," wrote William Howitt, a century ago. To-day when new books on natural history appear with the frequency of "rare" birds (and the increase in the army of bird-watchers has naturally been matched by more reports of rarities) the wood engravings of Thomas Bewick, born in 1753, seem to be more popular than ever.

Those who marvel at the way he captures the pugnacity of the robin, the stateliness of the swan and the secretive nature of the woodcock are not surprised to find that he tried "to copy nothing from the works of others, but to stick to nature as closely as I could." True, when preparing his *History of British Birds*, he spent two months at Wychiffe drawing from the stuffed specimens in "Mr. Constable's Museum." He soon realised, though, "the very great difference between preserved specimens and those in nature." Bewick, it is clear, was a naturalist before he was an artist—even taking the trouble to walk fifty miles to Chillingham Castle, near Alnwick, and then crawling on hands and knees through the undergrowth in order to sketch the famous Chillingham bull.

Is there no publisher who will mark the bicentenary of his birth by publishing his *Memoir*, which appeared in 1864, and again in 1924? Here we find Bewick's views on every subject from the feeding of cows and the decline in the taste and gravity of beer to the treatment of women. This amusing, fascinating and often infuriating volume reveals him as a dour, solid, lovable old countryman, product of an age when it was not a crime to be eccentric. Among the papers found after his death are notes on a North Country walk. "Went to Chester le Street, spent 1½d. . . Charity to a Dum Man ½d. . . refreshed at Easingwold 1½d. . . Walked 23 miles from York to Rippon and spent 6d."

If Thomas Bewick was the father of English wood engraving, William Daniel, who was born in the same year as Bewick, may be hailed as the parent of books on country sports and pastimes. It was only a few months ago that a patron advertised for an incumbent "of moderate churchmanship and keen on outdoor sports." William Daniel would have been just the man. A true sporting parson of the old school, he found shooting and coursing and fox-hunting far more to his taste than preaching or pastoral visiting. For that reason he does not appear to have held any living—though he startled his friends by following the success of his *Rural Sports*, in three volumes, with *Plain Thoughts of Former Years Upon the Lord's Prayer*.



FREDERICK ROBERT SPOFFORTH, THE AUSTRALIAN CRICKETER, WHO WAS BORN IN 1853

To-day his devotional writing is forgotten. His work on country sports still lives—and for a good reason. William Daniel was a sportsman and naturalist of no small skill who could fairly boast that his book was written only after he had "availed himself of the most recent lessons and selected from the best authorities."

How admirable, for instance, is his defence of the badger. "No animal has suffered more from vulgar prejudices; harmless in his nature, he seems to have had the character of ferocity given to him merely because he is a beast of great strength. He is, however, found to be an animal perfectly inoffensive." Daniel denies that the badger destroys lambs and—surprisingly—goes on to declare that he is also innocent of eating rabbits. The author is on firmer ground when he adds that badgers do eat plenty of roots, fruit, grass and insects and some frogs.

One wonders how the Committee now enquiring into the ways of otters would regard his views on the feeding habits of these creatures. Little research into their habits has been undertaken since Daniel's day and it is interesting to find him insisting that they eat large quantities of fish—by which he presumably means coarse fish as well as trout. "But the otter will eat none unless it be perfectly fresh and what he takes himself. In very hard weather when its natural sort of food fails, the otter will kill lambs, sucking pigs and poultry, and one was caught in a warren where he had come to prey on rabbits. The otter will also devour vegetables of different kinds." He quotes the case of William Collis, of Northumberland, whose tame otter "always attended him, would fish in the river, and when satiated return to him." Its food, he declares, "consisted chiefly of milk and hasty pudding."

Another sporting writer born in 1753 was John Lawrence, who at the age of 15 wrote an essay "in favour of kindness to animals." From the rural district of Somers Town, London, he produced much literature about bees and poultry, rabbits and swine. *British Field Sports* (1818) contains "a system of sporting ethics with a view to rooting out that horrible propensity in the human breast, a sense of sport and delight in witnessing the torture of brute animals."

Like the R.S.P.C.A. inspectors of our own day, he found his presence at cattle markets was of real value in preventing ill-treatment of animals, and he fought hard for an end to the "infamous and degrading practice of bull-baiting." Yet he would not have been disturbed by recent unconfirmed reports of cock-fighting on remote parts of Cannock Chase. For this ancient sport, he counted "a legitimate object of curiosity."

Perhaps 1753 should be labelled "the year of the eccentrics." For other countrymen of rare spirit and strange character born that year included Samuel Chifney, a royal jockey, who boasted: "In 1773 I could ride horses in a better manner in a race to beat others than any other person ever known in my time." And in 1775: "I could train horses for running better than any person I ever yet saw. Riding I learnt myself and training I learnt from Mr. Richard Prince, training groom to Lord Foley." In 1789 he won the Derby for the Duke of Bedford, and, after many other successes for Lord Egremont, he was employed by the Prince of Wales for a salary of 200 guineas a year. After riding the royal horse Escape at Newmarket, in 1791, he was called before the Jockey Club and accused of breaking their rules. The charges were not proved, but he soon lost his job, and we find him combating poverty by writing *Genius Genuine*, "price £5 for 170 pages." Authorship then, as now, was no quick road to wealth: he ended his days a debtor in Fleet Prison. He is remembered to-day as the inventor of the Chifney bit and the first jockey to make a habit of reserving his horse's energies for the swift start at the end of a race.

It was just 300 years ago when Izaak Walton published his *Compleat Angler*—originally a dialogue confined to Piscator and Viator.



THOMAS BEWICK (1753-1828), THE WOOD ENGRAVER

It met with a good reception and five editions appeared in the author's lifetime. Yet would he not have been astonished to find the first edition changing hands for £415 some 250 years after its appearance?

The same year—1653—saw the birth of the Rev. Nathaniel Lee, dramatist and Rector of Little Gaddesden, who was a notorious visitor to Wilton, outstaying his welcome—so the butler declared—in order to clear the wine cellar. What a pity he never met John Marriott, "the great eater of Gray's Inn," who died that same year. He published special "recipes to appease hunger"—including certain pills. His enemies are said to have served him "monkeys baked in pies." There are no grounds for suggesting that he resisted this odd diet.

In 1803 was born Robert Hawker, the saintly, scholarly Parson of Morwenstow, in Cornwall, who deserves to be remembered in every English parish. For, but for him, would so much be made of the harvest festival? He introduced the festival to his Cornish village in 1843, never suspecting that it would one day capture the imagination of the whole nation.

Another boy born in a West Country family that same year was George Borrow, son of the recruiting officer, stationed at Dereham, in Norfolk. On buying an estate on the Broads in later years, George Borrow allowed the gypsies freedom to camp where they liked on his land. He delighted in their company—and the result was *Lavengro* and his other works which first gave the gypsy a secure position in English fiction. One cannot help wondering if the modern planning authorities would have allowed Borrow to enjoy this acquaintance with the gypsies. "It weren't like this a hundred years ago—nor even fifty years ago," said a gypsy who was recently expelled from a Sussex common even after he had offered to pay the parish council half-a-crown per night.

One must also wonder if this highly organised new world of 1953 will see the birth of men of such distinctive character that they can be called eccentrics. I recently put this question to a group of young people. They were quick to reply "No, modern life makes for standardisation of human character as well as of motor-cars." Yet one boy was bold enough to suggest that the New Year—which will bring a visit from the Australian Cricket XI—may, perhaps, produce another Spofforth, the Demon Bowler who was born a hundred years ago. Such an event would not please everybody. A century ago, one H. Silver, who mourned that cricket wasn't what it used to be—it never has been—wrote: "I think the fun of the game went out when fast bowling came in."

Illustrations: Picture Post Library.

FORGOTTEN PLANTS FOR THE HERBACEOUS BORDER

By A. G. L. HELLYER

A FEW families of herbaceous plants have so engaged the attention of breeders during the present century, and so many magnificent varieties of these have been raised, that I think we are in some danger of forgetting altogether many of the less popular and less highly developed kinds.

How many gardeners to-day know any of the herbaceous veronicas with the exception of *V. spicata* and its rather numerous offspring? Yet there are several other very decorative and useful species starting with the glossy-leaved *V. gentianoides* in May and finishing in September with the plant which used to be known, I believe erroneously, as *V. japonica*. The first is still to be seen occasionally and is in some nursery lists, but I have neither seen nor heard of *V. japonica* for years. It was a tall plant, making a fine shuttlecock of growth some 5 ft. high, terminated by dense spikes of small, deep purple flowers much like those of *V. virginica* (another forgotten plant), but more effective because more decisive in colour. Incidentally, the best of all the herbaceous veronicas is still, in my view, *V. longifolia subsessilis*, a splendidly free-flowering plant with robust purple spikes in August. I would be prepared to include it among the 24 best hardy herbaceous perennials, yet I believe that it is becoming less well known with every passing year. The trouble is that all the limelight is so persistently turned on the delphiniums, lupins, phloxes and michaelmas daisies that nowadays fill both the nursery catalogues and the shows.

Another fine plant that is in danger of being overlooked is the balloon flower, *Platycodon grandiflorum*. It is a close relative of the campanulas and looks much like them, but is a more refined border plant than any herbaceous campanula I know. About a foot in height, it produces in August large, inflated flower buds which expand into wide, saucer-shaped flowers, lavender blue in the type, and white in the form *Mariesii*. There is also a variety named *nacranthus*, which is said to have larger flowers, though whether that is any advantage I am not prepared to say.

A plant to which I am very attached is *Polygonum campanulatum*, though I can well understand that it would not be everybody's choice. For one thing, it does tend to spread rather rapidly, not by running underground in the pernicious manner of so many polygonums, but by rapidly extending its sprawling mat of growth. Nor are its small, bluish-white flowers



DORONICUM PLANTAGINEUM NATURALISED IN THE GRASS AT HOWICK, NORTHUMBERLAND

sufficiently showy to attract loud applause, but they are charming, nevertheless, and they last longer than any other flowers, except everlasting, that I know. It is really astonishing to find what appear to be the same flowers that opened in early August, still fresh and attractive at the end of September. Yet that is my constant experience with this useful plant. The foliage is decorative also and the plant does not exceed 3 ft. in height. The one real shortcoming in my view is that *Polygonum campanulatum* is

a moisture lover that needs far more watering than is convenient in dry weather.

I have a considerable and increasing fondness for funkias (which I suppose by now we ought all to learn to call hostas), and I was delighted to hear that many more of these useful and trouble-free plants are being grown in the R.H.S. gardens at Wisley. Their leaves are an adornment to the garden from May to October, and many of them have considerable beauty of flower. There is, for example, the one frequently referred to as the Corfu lily, *Funkia* (or *Hosta*) *plantaginea*, which has large white flowers, and the smaller but freer-flowering *F. Sieboldiana*, the purple-tinged blooms of which are at least as decorative as those of *Galtonia candicans*. The plant, which used to be known as *Funkia ovata*, and has now been changed to *Hosta ventricosa*, has soft lavender-blue flowers which, though not showy, are nevertheless very pleasant to look at. *H. Fortunei* is another species well worth planting for its pale lilac flowers.

The leopard's-bane or doronicum seldom comes in for any praise, yet it is one of the best spring-flowering herbaceous plants, bone hardy, and a fine cut flower into the bargain. There are several species, but that most commonly seen in gardens is a native wild plant, though not a common one, *D. plantagineum*. I shall never forget seeing it at Howick, in Northumberland, growing quite naturally in the grass and carrying thousands of its fine golden daisies intermingled with the red plumes of sorrels and the various greys and greens of the grasses themselves. It was an object lesson in intelligent planting and, incidentally, a reminder of how well many herbaceous plants may be grown under natural conditions. In Captain Neil McEacharn's remarkable garden at the Villa Taranto in northern Italy all herbaceous perennials are grown in this way.

I am glad to see that in his recent book, *The Small Garden*, Mr. C. E. Lucas Phillips has had a good word to say for the herbaceous potentillas, though I am sorry that he has

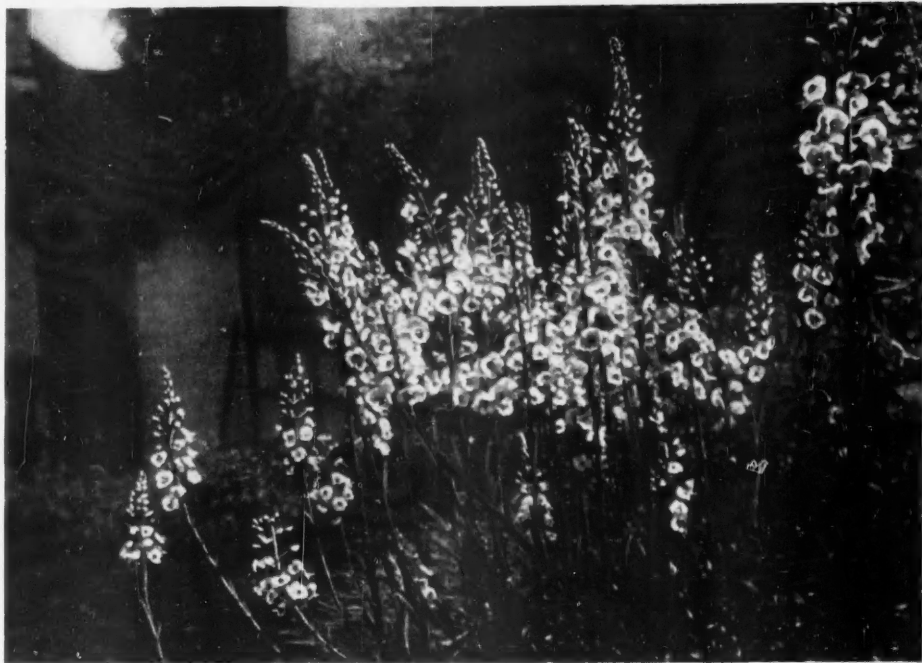


THOUGH USUALLY REGARDED AS PRIMARILY FOLIAGE PLANTS, MANY OF THE FUNKIAS ARE WELL WORTH GROWING FOR THEIR FLOWERS, AS IS THIS EXAMPLE OF *F. SIEBOLDIANA*

restricted his choice to one variety, Gibson's Scarlet. But perhaps that was because he is well aware that no other varieties are to be found nowadays in most nurseries, though 30 years ago one might have found a dozen. There were fine crimsons and scarlets and some with orange flowers or flowers flecked with orange or yellow on a crimson base. Most were taller than Gibson's Scarlet, which is almost prostrate and suitable only for the front row of the border, and many had double flowers, again unlike Gibson's Scarlet, which is single. I would not have it thought that I am against Gibson's Scarlet, which is certainly a brilliant and effective plant, but it seems a pity that it should be the sole survivor of a useful race of border plants.

Penstemons, thank goodness, are coming back after a period of eclipse. Perhaps the real trouble in their case was that they were almost destroyed by "improvement." So great was the urge at one time to breed varieties with ever bigger flowers that no attention was paid to constitution, with the result that the penstemon became purely a bedding-out plant which had to be kept in a greenhouse or frame throughout the winter. That nonsense is happily ended and we are getting an increasing number of varieties with flowers of medium size which are hardy enough to be treated as ordinary border plants in most parts of the country. It is always wise to dibble a handful of cuttings into a frame each September, just as a precaution, but that is a totally different thing from doing it as the only way of preserving the plants. Among the best of the present-day varieties is Pennington Gem, a variety in the tradition of those two old favourites, Newbury Gem and Southgate Gem. Both the old varieties were scarlet; Pennington Gem is pink with a white throat. One nursery is also offering a range of penstemons under number, a habit I deplore, because I am quite unable to memorise figures.

The day-lily or *hemerocallis* may also be on its way back, or perhaps I should say its way in, for it has never been really popular in the way in which the penstemon certainly was in the 19th century. Day-lilies are enjoying a tremendous vogue in America and there they have a society all to themselves to foster their

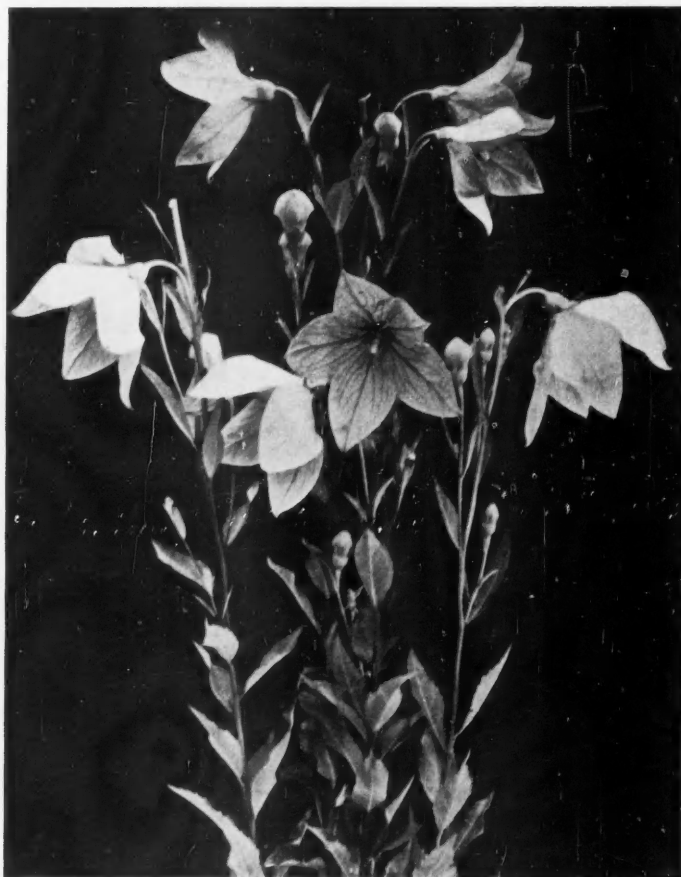


VERONICA GENTIANOIDES, ONE OF THE FIRST OF THE BORDER SPECIES TO BLOOM AND A VERY USEFUL PLANT. THE FLOWERS ARE A SOFT GREYISH-BLUE

popularity. Partly as a result of this and partly as a contributory cause towards it, a great many new varieties have been raised. It is really just one more example of the familiar round of events, the self-maintaining cycle that keeps some plants always in the front rank: get some one to raise a few good novelties and people begin to take an increasing interest in the plant, and then this increased interest encourages more breeding of novelties. Well, that is certainly the way things are going with the *hemerocallis* in America, and as some of the best of the American seedlings are now finding their way to this

country, it seems to me that it may be the way things will go over here.

Certainly the day-lilies are useful and beautiful plants, quite unfastidious as regards soil and situation, prodigiously generous with their flowers, and capable of producing curiously tawny shades which are effective both as a contrast to the more usual shades of yellow, and also because they are so different from anything one gets in the usual run of border flowers. If ever a herbaceous plant society is formed in this country, I hope one of its first tasks will be to publicise the merits of the day-lily.



A TYPICAL DAY-LILY OR *HEMEROCALLIS* WITH FLOWERS OF TAWNY YELLOW WHICH ARE BOTH CHARMING AND UNUSUAL. (Right) *PLATYCODON GRANDIFLORUM* HAS BEEN CALLED THE BALLOON FLOWER BECAUSE OF THE CURIOUSLY INFLATED FLOWER BUDS. WHEN IT BLOOMS IT SUGGESTS A REFINED CAMPANULA

THE OLD FARM GUN

By IAN NIALL

THE other week, after reading an article on guns, I took down my old gun and removed its firing pins, for I had a fear that the day might come when my son would feel he wanted to go off to the wood for a couple of pigeons or a pheasant, and the old gun might burst in his face. It was made before the days of smokeless powder and proofed for use with the black powder of its day, which was kinder to gun barrels than the modern stuff. Before I took out the pins I sat down with the gun on my desk, looking at its scroll-work on the sideplates, its shapely hammers, rearing up like fighting dogs, its inlaid fore-end and its painfully thin barrels. It never rang in my ear like the modern gun I had from a London gunsmith, who also put a new stock on this old friend of mine and sent it back with his account, in which he referred to "this ancient weapon." It never kicked me in the cheek, nor did it ever bite the second finger of my right hand as other guns have done. I have always been true to an old coat and an old hat and I felt that somehow I was doing wrong to take the pins away from a gun that had brought down my first rabbit, my first hare, pheasant, duck, partridge, snipe and woodcock. It had worked wonders for me when I poached across the marches, and many a big hare had tumbled when I threw that old piece to my shoulder, but here it was, being converted into an ornament, a thing for collecting dust.

The story of my gun goes back beyond my time, as they sometimes say. The family had a friend in the long ago and things were going badly for that friend. Perhaps a mare had died and a crop had failed; perhaps he took a bit of a mortgage or perhaps it was simply that he spent too long coming home from market, but one day he picked up the gun and went out to the back of the peatstack. He was prevented from doing himself harm by one of his family and the gun was sent to us for safe-keeping. Alas, the poor man's determination was strong and in a day or two he slung a rope over a beam and climbed on to a barrel to kick his heels for the last time. The gun stood in a corner and no one bothered with it because it had tragic associations, and its former owner, a good man in his time, had gone off "into everlasting damnation." It might have stayed there indefinitely but the farm gun, a heavy old piece of ordnance, blew back at the breech and carved a slice off someone's thumb. This day had hardly passed when the grouse sailed over from the moss and sat, as thick as crows, on the stocks of corn on the far hill. Corn was money and grouse were meat. Licence was a thing we waited to ask of no one when such things were involved. One of the household picked up the old friend's gun and went off to stalk the inpatient blackcock and his followers that fed so greedily close to the march wall. He came back with a brace and sat down to look at the gun for the first time. It had what are known as Damascus barrels. It was a twist gun, made by the old process of winding a strip about a mandrel. The barrels were soft by modern standards, but marked or figured in a way that was beautiful. It was a brown gun with a sort of lacquer shine on its metal. The stock was of a fine wood as soft as satin and it was inlaid with a craftsmanship that was a delight. Where is there such work now?

After the gun had been pulled through, the one who cleaned it squinted up the left and right barrels, one bored half choke and the other true cylinder, and placed it where the other gun had stood,

against the grandfather clock at the end of the settle. It stood there when I was a toddler and it was there when I came to manhood.

The first shooting man in the family was my father. He loved the wood and the field and his hand and eye were steady and sure. He shot when he was at home and sometimes crossed boundaries to get game that became elusive. Once he wiped the eye of the estate owner who was shooting through a wood with his keeper and missed a left and right at pheasants. Father, although he heard the shots and knew he was in the wrong, had to shoot. He shot and the two birds tumbled and were retrieved by the dogs of their rightful owner while the keeper apprehended the trespasser. A man who loves to fish will tell you what it means to have a salmon on his line while his licence mentions only trout. A man who has a gun in his hands and game flying across his front knows that he must shoot. The owner of the pheasants was an understanding man and he forgave father, who finished the day shooting through the wood with a disgruntled keeper beating for him.

When my father's enthusiasm waned the gun stood in its place, used once or twice by the ploughman to get a crow on the potato patch or a rabbit for the pot. Once in a long time father walked up the hollow to drive a pheasant out of the turnips or the whins and I stalked a few yards behind, carrying the heavy ironmongery of a cut-down Crimea gun that had neither sights nor bolt. I was five or six years old, but I was learning how to behave with a gun. One day—and I thought about it a great deal—the

scrolled gun that stood by the clock would be mine and my pockets filled with the best green cartridges. The woodside would know my stealthy step and the bracken sway at my passing as it did for my elders who walked the fields after game.

The years passed. A man named Jock came to work for us. Jock was an old soldier. He had soldiered in his youth and he felt that it was right that a child of ten should knock down his first rabbit with a twelve-bore gun. I went along the hedgeside with Jock, held the gun to my shoulder and bowled over my first sitter, while he yelled with delight and scared everything for two or three miles. The family heard of the event. They chastised Jock and lectured me. And then the day came, as it was certain to come, when there was no one else to get rabbits for the harvesters' dinner. I went out and brought back half a dozen, without wasting a single shot. One of the six tumbled as it ran for the ditch—my first running shot. I carried with me a piece of string and a weight to act as a pull-through for an oily rag. After each shot I pulled through my gun and wiped its barrels. When I shot I cocked only one hammer at a time. The hammer was set back as I put the gun to my shoulder. I was the most careful boy of ten that ever stalked a rabbit. I was probably the most happy boy of ten in the whole world.

The days I spent with the old gun are fixed in my memory as the most forceful master at school never managed to fix irregular verbs. Sometimes I went out at daybreak to the moss, sometimes to the high wood or the bog. Sometimes I went just before dusk. Sometimes I brought back three or four pigeons and once seven enormous hares that weighed so much that I was exhausted doing a sort of relay journey to carry them all home. There were mornings when my bag was welcomed and others when it was not. If I did not get caught in a downpour, then I went up to my knees in the bog. One day I might leave a piece of my jacket on the wire of the march fence and another rip my trousers coming through a thick hedge. When the household was only half awake I was already in the firwood listening to the birds, and often I was still there when the milking was over and the sun had climbed from behind the switchback hill to stand at noon making a reflection in the march-gate pool. I walked the roots and shot a hare with my right barrel and a cock pheasant with my left. I put down five partridges of a covey of seven with two shots. I dropped a high-flying pigeon in a cornfield and waded the ripe oats looking for it until I was wet through. The sound of my shooting echoed in the far hills and distant woods. Neighbours saw me going through forests of gorse and walking heather banks miles from home. I had only to hear the grouse calling or see a hare picking his steps across the moss and I was away. If a duck passed over in the rain before dusk, I plodded in the downpour to the waterhole. My clothes were full of the debris of the wood, fragments of fern, pine needles, pieces of twig. My pockets held nothing but spent cartridges and full ones.

The ironmonger in the town knew me well. He gave me credit when I came for boxes of cartridges. I knew the names of all the makers and loaders. I liked four shot for a hare or a duck, five for a rabbit or a pigeon, six for partridges. When I could afford them, I had good British cartridges. When funds were low I was content with an assorted lot that varied



in colour from purple to orange and blue and varied even more in their explosive performance because they had been loaded abroad. Some of these cartridges went off like a cannon being fired and others made a small noise and spewed their lead almost at my feet. I shot and stalked, stalked and shot, and the gamekeeper declared me a worse thing than a plague of stoats. He was thankful when I went to school, doleful when I came back on holiday. I looked on him as a miserable spoil-sport and he on me as the bane of his life. The gun was my delight. I waxed the stock and oiled its working parts. It was jealously looked after in my absence and the story of my prowess with it became near-legend.

Time takes away a little of a man's skill, impairs his sight, spoils his timing. In fifteen

years I found I could not shoot so well. In twenty I found I did not want to shoot so often. The gun remained in its place beside the clock until my grandfather died and I went home. It was time to look at the things that had been part of my childhood and see some of them for the last time, for the place was going out of the family. I lifted the gun. The stock had been broken. I salvaged the pieces and removed the trigger guard and triggers, packing them in a box to be sent to London for refitting. It was not that I wanted to shoot with the old gun again. I wanted to have it as it had been when I was a boy. The gunsmith fitted a new stock. He would not proof the barrels, but no matter, he had left the firing pins in. The new stock was not of the same wood as the original, but it was well enough made.

Only once did I take the gun out again. I went to shoot at a farm up the valley and left my modern gun at home. While I was passing along a rocky gully I slipped and fell. The left barrel of the old gun was dented. A hazel nut might have rested in the hollow the rock made in the metal. At home I broached the dent out with a rag and a cleaning rod and then I laid the old thing away. It is an ornament now, a memento of the happiest days of my youth, and money just could not buy it. Even yet, I haven't been able to throw the firing pins away. I intend to take it down at times and turn it in my hands, thinking of the adventures I had with it in the morning of my life. Smile if you wish. You would smile with an inner warmth if you owned that old farm gun of mine.

Illustration: Barbara Greg.

ENCOUNTER WITH A GRIZZLY By G. CLAYTON

SOME years before the war much of my work as a mining engineer was done in the Canadian North, sometimes near the Arctic Circle, Great Slave Lake or northern British Columbia. The vast territories near Great Slave Lake are a waste, desolate land, very rich in minerals. They are thronged by prospectors, geologists and officials of big mining companies. I had been up north for two years without a visit down south, except for one to Vancouver to get married. Now, having built myself a fairly respectable log-cabin, I was hoping to bring my wife up there. As a mining engineer in charge of a large group of claims, I hoped that I should be able to settle down.

My wife loved animals and the out-of-doors, and had been born and spent her early childhood in northern British Columbia, so she was not completely unacquainted with the wilds. But the northland has a savagery and a desolation untouched by anything I have ever known. No one who lives in the long-inhabited and well-populated regions of the world, with their thousands of years of civilisation, can understand the strange quality the uninhabited lands of the earth possess. How shall one describe it? Is it a sense of awe at the vastness of these primeval wastes? They were here, unchanged, uncaring, before man appeared on this continent. Here, under the rustling, eerie beauty of the Northern Lights, in the midst of the illimitable snows of winter, one realises they may well be unchanged, uncaring, when he has passed on his way.

Spring comes late up here, and the summer is short. The trees put out their leaves about June, and drop them again at the beginning of September, before eternal night grips the land. In the short and early fall, the autumn tints were lovely. The willow and poplars turned a golden brown, and the swamp moss russet. All these colours under clear amber skies, with a long, golden light falling over everything, are very beautiful. And in the lengthening night the weird colours of the Northern Lights dance and rustle in the sky; violet, unearthly green, rose and blue. Nothing more lovely can be imagined.

In the particular part of the North where I was the country was mainly muskeg and lake. Muskeg is a kind of spongy moss that grows in swamps, and in winter moss and swamp freeze solid. The lakes are sometimes of great size, sometimes tiny, with crowns of islets appearing above their surface where the rock has been hard enough to resist the scraping of primeval glaciers. The vegetation is mainly Indian tea in the muskeg, with poplar and willow, and small groves of spruce where there is any glacial till.

Even in summer the ground is only thawed to a foot or two below the surface. One wonders that in this vastness any life can exist at all, especially in winter. But it is full of life; Eskimos, trappers and prospectors; mining engineers and geologists; tenderfeet and hunters; Mounties and Indians; Indian half-breeds, dog drivers and their teams. Perhaps the most intrepid of all are the pilots who fly the Government aeroplanes and those belonging to the various mining companies which bring in supplies.

Wild life abounds, from grizzlies to the ubiquitous jack-rabbit. There are wolverines, Arctic foxes, mink, otter, lynxes, timber wolves, deer, caribou and moose; as well as a great variety of bird life.

Travel in the North is done by three methods—dog-team, aeroplane and pack-horse. In the winter dog-teams are mainly used, but within the last few years the aeroplane has ousted even the dog-team. Skis are fitted to the aeroplanes, enabling them to land on snow. But for cross-country travel and long prospecting trips dog-teams are still the best. In summer, however, pack-horses are used, and I did quite a lot of my prospecting trips by pack-horse. I also acquired a bay gelding called Duke. He had belonged to a friend of mine, who had brought him up north, having broken and trained him himself. He was one of the wisest animals I had ever come across, spirited yet gentle, with a beautiful mouth. He and I soon became great friends and I took him on all my prospecting trips. Sometimes we led the train, sometimes we followed it. I could always trust Duke to sense when we came to the treacherous muskeg. He could pick out the faintest trail and follow it so that I scarcely needed to guide him. Once I was on his back he knew that he was meant to go on till I dismounted, and the lightest touch on the rein would show him where to stop or turn.

In addition to Duke I had two dogs, a part bull terrier, a gentle-eyed bitch named Julie, and a gundog, a black water-spaniel named Prince. After my wife came I acquired a third dog, Rex, whose mother was a cougar hound, and whose father was unknown. He was a handsome beast, a big, long-coated black-and-white dog with a beautiful head and the heart of a lion, or so I thought.

After my wife came up to live with me I went out one summer day with a gun to shoot some fresh meat for the pot. It was a fine, clear day with that penetrating light the Arctic knows. I rode along till I came to a small lake fringed by a line of hills. They were covered by a growth of scrub, willow and poplar, and here and there were clumps of spruce. This, I thought, might afford good cover for game, and I was right, for I found a small herd of caribou sheltering and feeding there. I bagged a good-sized bull, which I proceeded to skin and cut up, leaving Duke near-by quietly grazing, while Rex hunted imaginary rabbits among the surrounding scrub.

It was getting late when I had finally skinned and cut up most of the caribou meat and was preparing to load it on Duke's back, leaving the rest cached near-by to fetch on the morrow. Duke suddenly snorted and stopped grazing, flinging up his head, ears pricked forward. Rex, who had just come trotting up, stiffened also, ears and nostrils twitching, then after giving a loud howl tucked his tail between his legs and disappeared like a streak in the direction of home. Just then I heard a loud whoof in the bush and saw a huge grizzly lumbering towards us, evidently attracted by the smell of the caribou meat. Unfortunately for me, Rex had dashed straight into the back of my legs in his flight, catching me off balance. I stumbled and tripped over

one of the bags, and fell rolling down the slope till I fetched against a spruce sapling with a whump. Luckily I had my rifle slung over my shoulder and instinctively gripped it as I rolled. When I had regained the breath that had been knocked out of me and was rising to my feet, the grizzly had covered the short space of ground between us. Grizzlies, for all their clumsy appearance, move very swiftly when they choose. It was charging straight at Duke, whom it evidently mistook for the caribou meat.

I struggled to get my rifle round off my shoulder, but I was still shaky from my fall and before I had got the strap untwisted events happened much faster. The grizzly reached Duke's hind-quarters, and still the horse did not stir. He merely waited with his head tucked down between his forelegs, his ears back, his eyes wickedly showing the whites, and his tail tucked down into his legs. Then the grizzly rose on his hind-legs and stretched out his mighty paws to grip the horse. I raised my rifle to my shoulder, though I felt that I was too late and Duke's end had come. But he acted before I had got my sights on the spot I wanted. No sooner was the bear erect than *spang!*—Duke's powerful hind-quarters shot out, and the grizzly caught the full force of the iron-shod hoofs with some 1,000 lb. of horseflesh behind them. With a startled whoof he dropped on all fours, doubled up and scuttered in a rather wobbly manner to the edge of the bush, where he sat down to reconsider matters. Duke looked over his shoulder, ears still flat back, watching the bear, who now presented a better target. Without hesitation I raised my rifle again, took aim and dropped the grizzly with a bullet in the brain. Then I skinned the bear and added his skin to the meat I was taking back with me. The skin when cured would make a lovely mat for our shack floor.

I rode home, vowing hot vengeance on my cowardly dog, who had abandoned Duke and me in the moment of our extremity. When I reached the cabin I found my wife at the door looking out anxiously up the trail for our return. Her face lighted with relief as I appeared.

She exclaimed with delight when she saw the meat and the magnificent grizzly skin I flung at her feet. "I thought something might have happened to you," she said, "when Rex came scuttering home with his tail between his legs."

I found an old prospector friend who often came to visit us when he was in our district. I greeted him cheerfully and told him of my day's adventures.

"Rex ran away from the bear like greased lightning!" he burst out, laughing. "Well, that's solved the question of what breed his father was, anyway. No collie will face a bear. Nor any dog with collie in him. Even a distant whiff of bear will send a collie flying. Don't shoot Rex. He's a good dog. He can't help what's bred in him. Next time you go out hunting take Julie. She's a part bull terrier and they're the dogs for bears. They'll trail a bear all day and go in and fight to the death."

I laughed as we went into the house together, and I patted Rex as he came creeping out from behind the stove.

GAME RESERVES OF RHODESIA

By H. B. SHARPE

THE Luangwa River flows from north to south in eastern Northern Rhodesia, roughly parallel to the western shores of Lake Nyassa and some 150 miles from it, and drains all the land from the immediate watershed as far north as the Tanganyika Territory border and up to the divide between the Congo and the Zambesi drainage area. It flows about 550 miles before it joins the Zambesi, and it falls from an altitude of 6,000 ft. at its sources, to 1,000 ft. at its junction with the Zambesi. It is approached by air from Livingstone, Salisbury and Lusaka to Fort Jameson, the capital of the eastern province of Northern Rhodesia, which is on a plateau 3,000 to 4,000 ft. above sea-level. The valley has been for years the hunter's, not the sportsman's, paradise, and in the old days the ivory and rhinoceros horn poachers must have collected much wealth there.

Having heard of the fabulous quantity of game found in the two Rhodesias in the past, I was very disappointed, when I motored from end to end of the country a few years ago, to see no wild animal larger than a mongoose, so that when I was asked to visit the Luangwa Valley Game Reserves I jumped at the opportunity.

The Northern Rhodesian Government has become alarmed at the rapid disappearance of its wonderful fauna, for as the population and prosperity of the country have increased, so have bush clearance, fires and cultivation spelt death to plants and animals. And if this were not enough, there are more than 40,000 muzzle-loading rifles in the country, and 120 rifles are allowed into the country each year, so that it will be seen that there is not much chance for the game.

However, within the last two years a new scheme has been initiated in the Luangwa River Valley. The country is lowish and hot, but by no means unbearably so. Behind the river flats is the dry mopani bush (*copaifera mopani*) extending over thousands of acres. It is tsetse fly country; the soil is very poor over most of it and few people live there. During a great part of the year large areas of it are waterless, with the result that all the game collects near the river. The valley has been divided into four reserves. The Luangwa Valley North and South Reserves on the west, and the Nsefu and the Lukususi River Reserves on the east of the river. The whole country outside these reserves, up to the plateau escarpment, is a controlled area in which a limited number of certain scheduled animals may be shot on licence.



A STRETCH OF THE LUANGWA RIVER, WHICH FLOWS FROM NORTH TO SOUTH IN NORTHERN RHODESIA AND WHICH FOR YEARS HAS BEEN A HUNTER'S PARADISE

On the western bank of the river there is a corridor opposite the Awisa tribal area and the Lukususi River controlled area which is not reserved, though I understand that it is hoped to join it to the reserves on either side of it. The Game Department officials have thought of an ingenious scheme of selling the game protection idea to their natives, and one enlightened chief, Nsefu, has allowed part of his country to be turned into Nsefu's Reserve. He benefits financially and personally from the arrangement, and so do his people. He also gains esteem and renown from it. Nsefu, an intelligent-looking man with an Arab cast of countenance, has agreed to his area being a game reserve for three years, and he has also stated emphatically that it will continue to be a reserve after the three years have elapsed. The Government is running and controlling all foreign tours, shooting and sight-seeing, which are allowed only from July to October. Catering, accommodation, transport, white hunters, African trackers and followers are all provided

for at absurdly low "all in" prices. The exchequers of the native areas concerned receive 50 per cent. of the proceeds, and this should encourage the more enlightened Africans to look upon game control as a valuable asset. Of the five controlled districts, three of them, including Lundazi, the best for big game, are kept for big game shooting parties from outside the territory, and two are kept for local residents, so that the resident European is at a disadvantage, except at Nsefu's, unless he attaches himself to a big game shooting safari.

I had heard of the heat, mosquitoes and sleeping sickness in the Luangwa Valley, "the old poaching lag's Paradise" and now we were entering it. We came out from the mopani bush into the flat river plains, into the glades of dark trees bordering the river, and in the mile or two before we reached Nsefu's camp we had seen impala, puku, roan, zebra, waterbuck and elephant, all of them tame and friendly. From a verandah on the river bank, we watched crocodiles of all sizes moving forward through the water inch by inch, to throw themselves out of it with jaws agape to snap great mouthfuls of the small, red-billed quelea weaver birds that flocked above the water. One large crocodile seemed to get enough queleas in three snaps of his huge mouth to provide a substantial meal, but some of the younger ones were not so adept. The countless quelea weavers seemed to like Nsefu's Camp as much as we did, for the trees were quivering with them and their twitterings all night long, and the ground beneath them was white with their droppings. A lion walked through the camp, birds called, hippopotami grunted, and other lions roared through the night, all in tune with the quelea symphony.

The next morning, as we walked through open glades and shadowy arcades beneath the lovely *Acacia albida*, fig and other trees, the animals parted to let us pass. Bushbuck, waterbuck, impala and puku took no notice of us. The cow-like eland, so light of foot that sometimes it will leap lightly over one of its mates, were slightly more nervous, though one heavy, nearly black, bull, seemed somewhat loath to move away. We walked through elephants who were too busy eating forest fruits to worry about human beings who never molested them. We sat on a sand cliff beside the river where the carmine bee-eaters (*Merops nubicus*) were nesting in hundreds in the cliff—indeed the top of the cliff, the reed stems below, near-by trees and the air itself were full of these lovely carmine, pink and blue



A FAMILY PARTY AT NSEFU'S CAMP IN THE LUANGWA VALLEY

swallow-like birds, of which many flashed out from their holes as we marched along, while others sat fast in their nests until they could bear it no longer when they, too, swooped out from the holes beneath our feet.

Returning to camp we passed herds of the same kind of animals in somewhat more arid land and it was not long before we saw a sizeable herd of buffalo. We sat behind a small bush as they came towards us, the calves and cows lowing to one another. Several of the young cows were a bright, red colour. When they got fairly close, we showed ourselves and the herd stood rigid regarding us, a bull in the middle and other bulls on each side. They moved back a little, but then came forward again as we moved off. There were more than 80 of them and they were not in the least alarmed, but merely curious.

During the heat of the day we stayed on our verandah. Crocodiles lazed just below us and a hippopotamus, about 30 ft. away, spent two or three hours watching us. His time was roughly four minutes staring to one minute under water. An elephant forded the river; another hippopotamus strolled in from a clump of thick forest. Five magnificent greater kudu bulls came on to their lido with a following of waterbuck, impala and puku. The kudus belied their stately appearance and indulged in much prancing and curvetting, throwing up the sand and making a pass at an impala before returning to the shade of the forest.

And so the days slipped by. Imagine, at that first camp, all on view in one sweep of the river at the same time, seven of Africa's game animals, of which the majority were greater game. Where else in the world could one see such a collection in so small an area?

One of the high-lights of the valley was the rare and local Cookson's blue wildebeeste. It is a striking animal, but it is not blue, being of a light, brownish-fawn colour, with a black wildebeeste head and black tail and points. It is somewhat taller than its Kenya relation and holds its head higher, probably because its habitat is in bush country.

We dug up a crocodile's nest over a foot deep in the sand. The eggs, in layers of five, were about as big as those of an Egyptian goose, nearly transparent and with a darkish, wavy band round the middle. One, opened, was fresh, but smelt slightly fishy. No one wanted it for breakfast!

The birds were interesting, but not so impressive as the animals in either variety or numbers. The African skimmer (*Rhynchos flavirostris*) was new to me and was seen only occasionally. It resembles the tern, has a long lower bill and skims along the water, leaving behind it a long line where its bill cuts the surface, presumably in search of food. One of these birds had nested on a sand-spit opposite Nsefu's Camp. There was also a colony of white-fronted bee-eaters (*Merops Bullocki*) nesting in the bank below the camp. Another lovely river bird was a crowned, white-fronted,



AN OPEN GLADE IN AN *ACACIA ALBIDA* GROVE



AN ELEPHANT COMING DOWN TO DRINK IN THE RIVER

wattled plover, which I do not think has yet been classified. A long-tailed, glossy starling (*Lamprolornis Mevesii*) was new to me, and so was a smallish, red-legged francolin, possibly *Pternistes Swainsoni*. There were a number of old friends, among them the giant heron (*Ardea Goliath*), the golden oriole (*Oriolus monarchus*),

the water dikop or lesser stone-curlew (*Burhinus vermiculatus*), the common sandpiper, the greenshank and the ubiquitous sparrow weaver, as well as hammer head, saddle bill and marabout and openbill storks, and sacred, wood and ha-de-da ibis.

Among the trees which particularly impressed me were the magnificent *Acacia albidia*, shedding its big gold and red seed pods for the antelopes and other animals to eat up greedily. We called them the "cheese biscuit" trees. The German sausage tree (*Kigelia Pinnata*) was everywhere, with its lovely soft green foliage and long racemes of deep, maroon bigonia-like flowers and great grey hanging sausages up to two feet long dangling from them. One raceme of many flowers produces but one sausage. The rhinoceros and the waterbuck eat the sausages; the impala and the puku eat the red flowers but leave the green calyx. At our second camp we sat under a great tree of *Cordyia Africana*, covered with its greenish, very sweet scented corymbs of flowers. These trees were alive with lizards, birds and innumerable insects. There were also some good fig trees, but the main forest growths were iron woods of various kinds (*Terminalia sp.*) and many legumes, cassias and others.

There is good rough fishing for tiger fish, bream, lung fish and others; there are hot springs, and prehistoric implements to be picked up; and a prehistoric man was found not far away. Northern Rhodesia, I pray, will always preserve her wonderland in the Luangwa River Valley.



A CROCODILE'S NEST IN THE SAND. "The eggs, in layers of five, were nearly transparent and with a darkish, wavy band round the middle"

TIMBER CHURCH PILLARS

Written and Illustrated by J. D. U. WARD

PILLARS of stone are so usual in churches that unobservant visitors sometimes assume that all pillars are stone. In fact, a few parish churches have timber pillars, but apparently no comprehensive study or survey of the subject has yet been made. Several examples are listed by E. Tyrrell-Green in his *Parish Church Architecture* (1924), but in the course of six weeks' chance travels I came across two unmentioned instances—at Dolgelly, in North Wales, and at Kittisford, in west Somerset.

Where there are timber pillars there is often some kind of a story about them—and one or two of the stories have an apologetic air, suggesting that the timber was considered to be a mean and unworthy material to sustain the roof of a church. At Dolgelly there is a tale of how the eight lengths of oak were tushed or snaked by oxen about ten miles over the mountains from Dinas Mawddwy, where they were grown. There is also a story that they used to be adorned by the loosely-hung coffin plates of the departed; but the sound of these plates moving in the draughts was felt by the congregation to be a too noisy reminder of their own future dissolution—and now the pillars are bare.

At Wingham, in east Kent, the pillars are not of the more general oak but of chestnut. Here there is a tale that in 1555, when the nave was to be rebuilt, a certain brewer obtained a licence to collect money for the purpose. He embezzled most of the money he obtained, and the funds that were salvaged sufficed to provide nothing better than chestnut pillars. One book

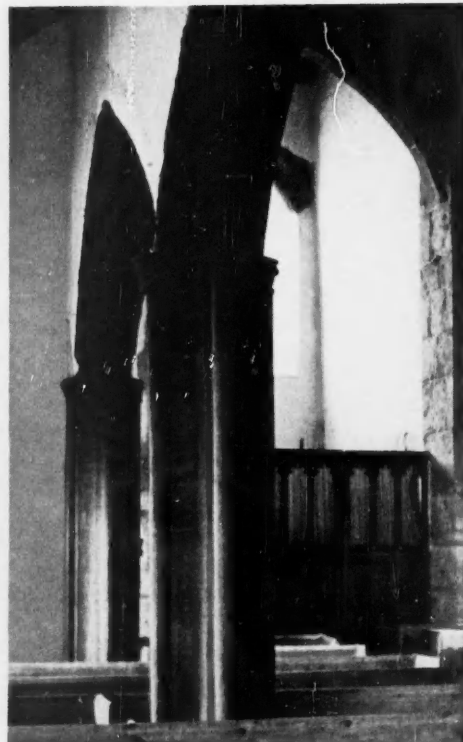
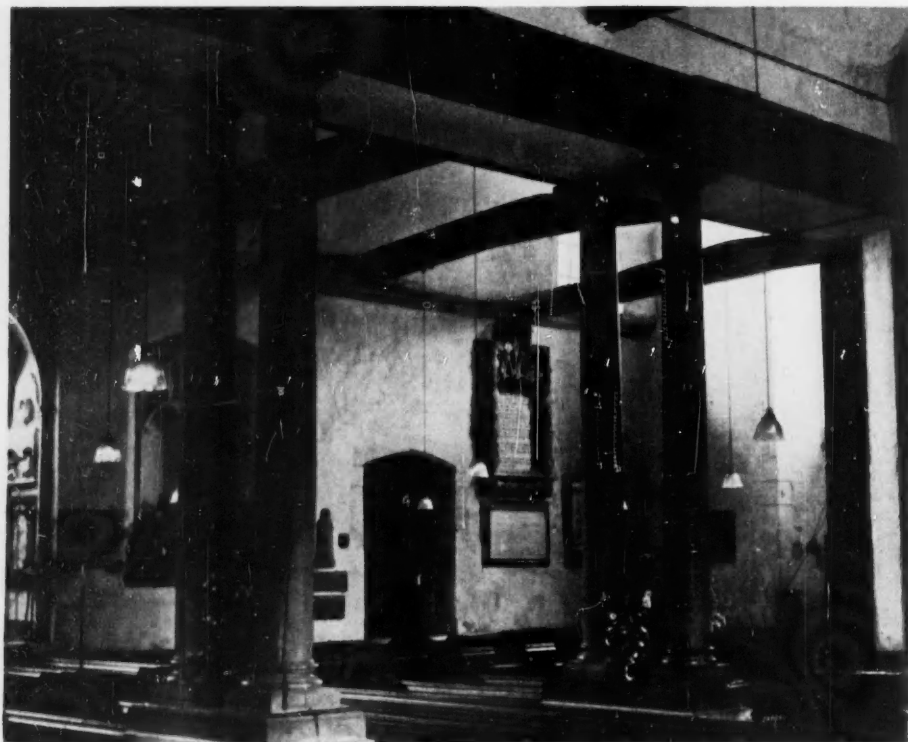
hints that the allegation that the nave had fallen down—on which the licence to collect for restoration had been obtained—was false.

A few miles away, at St. Mary's, Sandwich, there is a wooden arcade which dates from a disaster to the church in 1677. The story about the four oak pillars in the church at Radley, Berkshire, also tells of a disaster. The church was burnt down about 1290, and the Abbot of Abingdon is said to have had a dream in which he was told to seek oak pillars in the forest. His

pillars were apparently replaced about 1500, but the roof arcade, as distinct from the pillars which support it, dates only from 1902. In the same county, but more than twenty miles farther east, is Winkfield, with oak pillars and moulded arches. This arcade was first built in 1592; two of the pillars appear to be original and one of them (the most easterly of all) carries on its southern side Queen Elizabeth I's crown, monogram and the year. Other pillars have since been renewed: one carries a



CHESTNUT PILLARS IN THE NAVE AT WINGHAM CHURCH, KENT. (Right) OAK PILLARS AT DOLGELLY CHURCH, MERIONETH



THE COLONNADE OF PAIRED TUSCAN COLUMNS AT LANGLEY MARISH CHURCH, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE. (Right) STONE MOULDINGS IMITATED IN OAK AT KITTISFORD CHURCH, SOMERSET

Victorian date, and record of the Queen's gift, and the other, against the west wall, has the inscription "*Hanc Columnam D.D. Edwardus VII Rex A.D. 1909.*" Apparently all these pillars were cut from Windsor Forest oaks given by the reigning sovereign.

In roughly the same region of England are Langley Marish, across the Buckinghamshire border, and Berkhamsted, in Hertfordshire. The parish church at Langley Marish is a famous one: the roof timbers are thought to be original and to date from the 12th century, and the church contains the remarkable Kederminster Library and Royal arms held to be among the half-dozen best in the south of England. The colonnade of paired Tuscan pillars dates (like the library) from 1630, and is the only double colonnade in timber known to me.

Berkhamsted has neither colonnade nor arcade but a single great timber pillar with elaborate spandrels. This one pillar, which is the main support of the 15th-century roof of St. John's chapel in the parish church, is exceptional in its beauty; here is no hint that the builders felt that they were working with a second-rate material for lack of a better.

The pillars and arcade in the lonely little church of Kittisford, near Wellington, is also beautiful and ambitious, but the craftsmen have imitated in oak the fluting and shafting which was evolved by masons working in stone, and the natural camber of the timber has been used to make good curves



WINKFIELD CHURCH, BERKSHIRE. "Apparently all these pillars were cut from Windsor Forest oaks given by the reigning sovereign"

for the arcade. This use of timber is rare, and most major timber pillars are either octagonal or round.

There was doubtless a greater inclination to make timber pillars in areas where easily-worked building stone was scarce and large timbers were readily obtainable, but the distribution of some places mentioned (Dolgelly, Wingham, Winkfield and Kittisford) shows that timber columns and arcades are fairly widely distributed. Among other examples mentioned by Tyrrell-Green in the work already cited are Shenfield, in Essex, St. Maugham's, in Monmouthshire, Betley, in Staffordshire, Selmeston, in Sussex, and Mattingley, in Hampshire. Nymet Rowland, near Lapford, in Devon, is among the lesser-known examples which are not listed.

The timber pillars and arcades of some of these and other churches must from time to time have been illustrated in *COUNTRY LIFE*: for example, in the issue of January 19, 1945, there is a photograph of the handsome 15th-century arcade in Ribbesford Church, in Worcestershire.

The subject as a whole would seem to merit more attention and research. Anyone recalling the careful and almost exhaustive papers that have been written on such subjects as lead fonts and oak effigies (both of whose numbers are known with something like precision) might be surprised that the timber pillars and arcades of English churches should have escaped thorough study.

TEN YEARS LATER

By G. RIDSDILL SMITH

IT does not always pay to revisit old haunts, but a recent revisitation I made certainly did. For I saw again a large part of East Anglia, for whose defence we had been responsible, smiling at peace, with the scars of war gone. As we entered the area the memories came crowding in. The garage we stopped at for petrol had been on our list for "destruction" or "disruption," a nice piece of Latinity not appreciated by the average Home Guardsman. Even the road, now free of road blocks and dragon's teeth, had been scheduled as one of the refugee roads from the coast. Beyond the garage, standing out from the fens, were the turning sails of the miller who once remarked, as I glanced at the harp in his music room during an inspection of the mill: "That's my wife's, but if there's any fuss at the Golden Gate I shall sing out 'Let me in, for I can tune harps!'"

Farther on, by an ornamental lake, stood the house of the sailor Home Guard battalion commander who sited his weapons fore and aft and indented for wire in fathoms. So we slid into the county town, planned for defence street by street till the "Keep" fought it out to the last round; and I laughed again on passing the town hall which had been the scene, in a big Field Force and Civil Defence exercise, of some pretty gassing and counter-gassing by the Mayor and Chief Constable, while a ranting greybeard denounced us all with wild cries of "It's no use giving the boys and girls gasbags. What they need is trust in Jehovah!"

My headquarters had been farther north by the sea in a building that, doubtless for security reasons, retained its pre-war designation in big letters on a board outside: Home of Rest for Sick Nurses. Peering incautiously over the tamarisk hedge at the glass verandah where we used to drink beer I saw it was fulfilling its original rôle; as was the school which had been requisitioned by one of our battalions, now looking spick and span since the bursar (whom the quartermaster, *in loco bursarii*, would call the Bazaar) had come into his own again.

And the beaches were once more open, void of tubular scaffolding and minefields and all the array of weapons that covered them. Here and there a revolving steel turret reared its rusty head never to revolve again, and screw pickets helped to fence the fields.

Every yard of that forty miles of coast had been ours to hold and I have only to glance at a map of it now for it all to come back as vividly as it would have to any Roman staff officer stationed there, watching for the same foe. A nor'easter still whipped up white waves on the banks out to sea, hissed over the dunes, hummed in the firs, rustled the barley in the field where ten years ago we found coins from the pay chest of a Roman cavalry unit stationed there nearly 1,500 years before. Now walking across an adjacent field one of my sons picked up a bit of Samian ware and some blue-green glass.

In one sense the past here dominates the present; in another both fade away, banished by the limitless sea and sky. Peddar Way winds green over ridge and valley between banks of nodding harebells, untamed through fields tamed by Coke of Holkham and still being tamed by modern science. Yet down by the sea, fringing this fertile soil, lie the saltings, tank-proof in war, plough-proof in peace, the home of birds beloved by men like the late H. J. Massingham, whose chapter on bird life—*The Flats*—is such joy to read. Here is freedom eternal, not temporal like the Freedoms of the Atlantic Charter which I heard broadcast that August day from a tank's wireless deep in the Norfolk woods.

No wonder the saltings breed an independent race of men, like the old scoundrel who refused to join any recognised organisation but held himself ready for the invader with short-barrelled shotgun and ammunition home-made of ball-bearings and Russian tallow. Of similar breed were the fenmen, forever ready to repel the sea. One of them I met this time by chance and we recalled how when we last met it had been to site anti-tank guns and Blacker bombards to cover his fields with fire, and discuss the various rôles of his company—road blocks,

guarding VP's, rounding up paratroops on tractor-drawn farm trailers. There was something natural in all this state of preparedness dating back beyond assize of arms and Saxon fyrd to the days of Boadicea, one of whose reputed rallying points served as rendezvous for the Home Guard guerrilla company.

"There's summat in the air," as the old song says, which breathes courage into all who come here, even the pre-war patrons of our billet (a lodging house, 39 paces exactly up the blackest of blacked-out roads, with houses all alike bearing names like Dunromin, Thistledoo and Onmeown) so that one bold spark embellished the visitors' book with: "Words fail me in trying to describe the charms of this home from home and its ministering angel," to which his wife tartly added: "It would tax the pen of a genius to describe the atmosphere of this house." The delight of meeting our landlady again was mutual and we talked of the past, she smiling and game as when bombs rocked her house and set all the texts swaying on the walls.

Names of old friends conjured up the nick-names of their regiments—South Scaffolding, Nuts and Stags, Very Royal Scots—derived from incidents too long to narrate; and a small heap of fossils and shells in the garden brought back memories of my family's short visits here during the war, and of how when the youngest heard sirens for the first time he had turned sleepily over in bed with a happy murmur of "Taxi, Nanny." Now he sat, colt-like, stroking the white cat (grand-daughter of that kitten christened Timoshenko) as she pawed at flies, while the eldest, burnt from harvesting and half-filling the room, talked of the near-by farm he was working on; and other sirens, of peaceful intent, began to woo us back to this sea-washed fruitful air.

Could the angel minister to us next year? As she got out her book and scanned it with raised brows, I felt like the miller at the Golden Gate. Should I try his trick on—with her sprung gramophone?

OMBERSLEY COURT, WORCESTERSHIRE—I

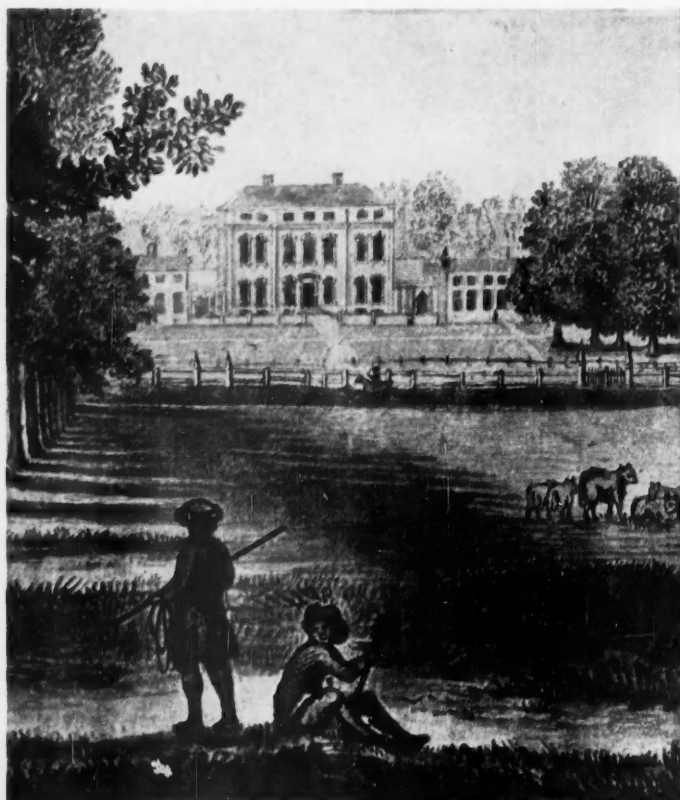
THE SEAT OF LORD SANDYS

By ARTHUR OSWALD

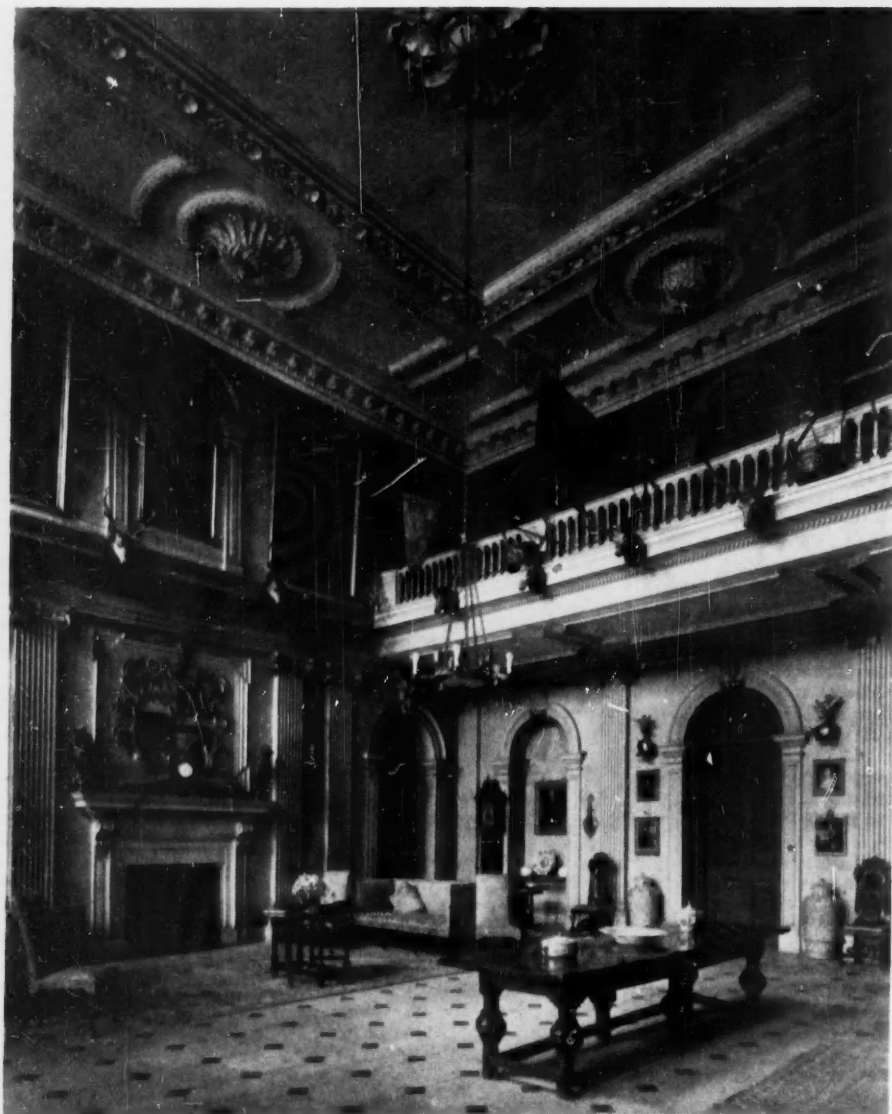
Formerly a possession of Evesham Abbey, the manor was acquired by the Sandys family early in the 17th century. The present house, though refaced and altered in 1812-14, dates from the time of Samuel, 1st Lord Sandys, who between 1723 and 1730 employed Francis Smith of Warwick.

AT Ombersley the main road from Kidderminster to Worcester—"a very sad, heavy way, all sand" Celia Fiennes found it in 1698, when she rode along it—is crossed by one from Droitwich to Tenbury, which is carried over the Severn by Holt Fleet Bridge, one of the early 19th-century iron bridges, a little more than a mile west of the cross-roads. The village is a pretty one, with a number of picturesque timber-framed houses and others of later date contrasting with them. At the King's Arms Inn, on the east side of the village street, Charles II is said to have rested on his flight from Worcester, and its appearance cannot be much different now from what it was then. By comparison, the church which it confronts is a newcomer, having been built in 1825 by Rickman. Its tall spire calls attention from a long distance to the position of Ombersley, both the village and the Court which lies not far to the west of it.

The church, the Court and the park are all in the south-west quarter formed by the intersection of the roads, and as the park is beautifully wooded and many fine old trees screen the house to the north and west, it is not difficult to imagine the glade in the forest which originally gave to the place the "ley" of its name. *Ambreslege* is the oldest form in which it is found, in the 8th century, and Ambersley long continued to be the usual form of spelling. It has been suggested that in the first part of the name Aurelius Ambrosius, son of Constantine, King of Britain, is commemorated; less venturesome



1—THE ENTRANCE FRONT IN THE 18th CENTURY. Enlarged from the engraving by Valentine Green and Francis Jukes in Nash's *Worcestershire* (1782)



2—THE ENTRANCE HALL

etymologists prefer a Saxon personal name and presume that the same one is found in Amesbury. Whoever its founder was, the village certainly existed in the year 706, when twelve *cassata* of land in Ambreslege were granted to the abbot of Evesham by Ethelward, sub-king of the Hwiccas, with the consent of the Mercian King Coenred. This grant was confirmed by Kings Ceolred, Ethelbald and Offa, and although at the end of the 10th century Ombersley was temporarily lost to the abbot, it was recovered, and it remained one of Evesham's possessions until the dissolution of the abbey in 1539.

In Domesday Book the abbey's estate at Ombersley is stated to have been reckoned at 15 hides in the time of Edward the Confessor. Part of the parish was forest, which had originally been embraced in the great forest of Wyre, but by charter of Henry III Ombersley was disafforested. The abbots used the manor house as a country retreat. John de Brockhampton (1282-1316) is recorded to have built a room with a vault; in 1367 William de Bois died at Ombersley; his successor, John Ombersley, added a hall with two rooms attached to it, a stable outside the lower door and a small grange in the outer court; Roger Yatton (1379-1418) rebuilt the dovecot, kitchen and chapel. The manor at the time of the suppression brought in more than £120 a year—a very considerable revenue.

In 1538, the year before the dissolution, the abbot had granted a 92-year lease of the manor to Philip Brace of Doverdale, and nine years later, on his surrender of this, the Crown granted him a 21-year lease of the manor house, while the manor was leased for the same period to Robert Constable. Other grants of leases followed under Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth. A survey of the manor house made in 1584 shows that it was a courtyard building of considerable extent. There was a hall of timber, covered with tiles, with rooms north and east of it, a house at the south end of the hall, a chapel built of stone

above a vaulted undercroft, rooms south and east of the chapel; also a house on the east side of the court in a state of ruin past repair. Ten years later a 31-year lease of the manor, to run from Michaelmas, 1619, was obtained by Sir Samuel Sandys, and soon afterwards he was able to take over the current lease: at any rate, he was in possession of the manor by 1608. James I in 1610 included Ombersley in the large grant of lands made to his son, Prince Henry, but two years later, on the Prince's death, it reverted to the Crown, and in 1614 Sir Samuel Sandys received an outright grant of the manor at a fee-farm rent of £26 19s. 3d. Thus, after an interval of three-quarters of a century of Crown ownership, Ombersley entered on the second long-continued (and still continuing) epoch in its history.

Sir Samuel was the eldest son of Edwin Sandys, successively Bishop of Worcester (1559) and London (1570) and Archbishop of York (1576). In the library at Ombersley there is preserved the bishop's Bible, at the end of which in his own handwriting are set down the names, dates of birth and god-parents of his seven sons and two daughters (Fig. 13), "whiche he had by his wief Cyceley and at this present are all lyvinge. Octob. 1, 1576." The youngest of the sons, George, poet, traveller and treasurer of the Virginia Company, of whom there is a striking portrait by Cornelius Johnson in the hall, is entered separately overleaf. Fig. 12 shows the handsome title-page of the Bible, which is coloured. Richard Jugge was the printer of this fine edition, published in 1574.

The bishop came of a very old north-country family seated at Esthwaite in Furness and at Graythwaite, near Ulverston. Major George Owen Sandys, of Graythwaite Hall, has a double descent from two of the bishop's

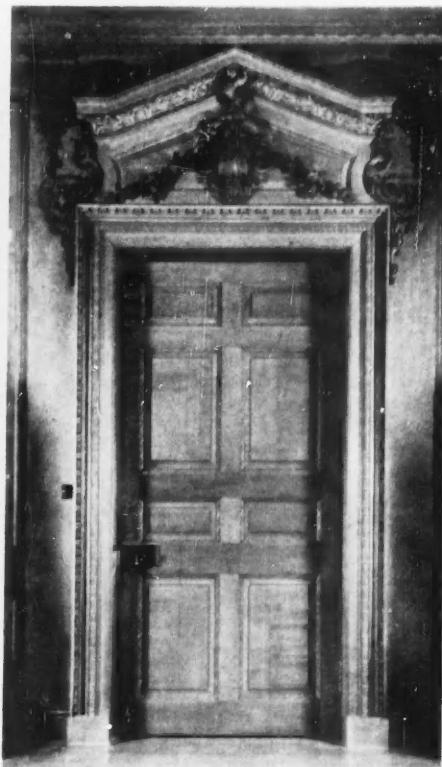
younger brothers, while a third brother, Myles, was ancestor of the three last Lords Sandys of the Vyne. While occupying the see of Worcester, the bishop had acquired a property in Ombersley and so began his family's connection with the place. In the hall at the Court, there hangs a portrait which proclaims itself to be a speaking likeness of this grave Elizabethan divine, painted in 1571 when he was fifty-two (Fig. 11). There is a copy of it at Fulham Palace (COUNTRY LIFE, Vol. LXV, page 191). Reproduced beside it here is another episcopal portrait which hangs in the house (Fig. 10). There are versions at Winchester and New College, Oxford, of this painting of William of

Wykeham in which he appears three-quarter length, in red and gold brocaded cope and mitre, with his two foundations shown inset in the top corners. It may have come to Ombersley through Mary Barker, daughter of Dr. Hugh Barker, Dean of Arches, and first wife of the second Samuel Sandys of Ombersley, grandson of Sir Samuel. She could claim founder's kin for her two sons when they went to Winchester, and the younger of them, Edwin (died 1684), became a fellow of New College. A late 16th or early 17th-century date is suggested by the strap-work round the shield and the spelling and lettering of the motto.

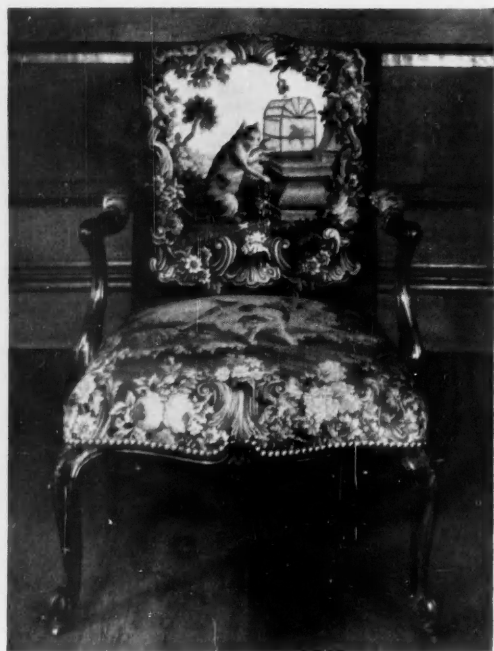
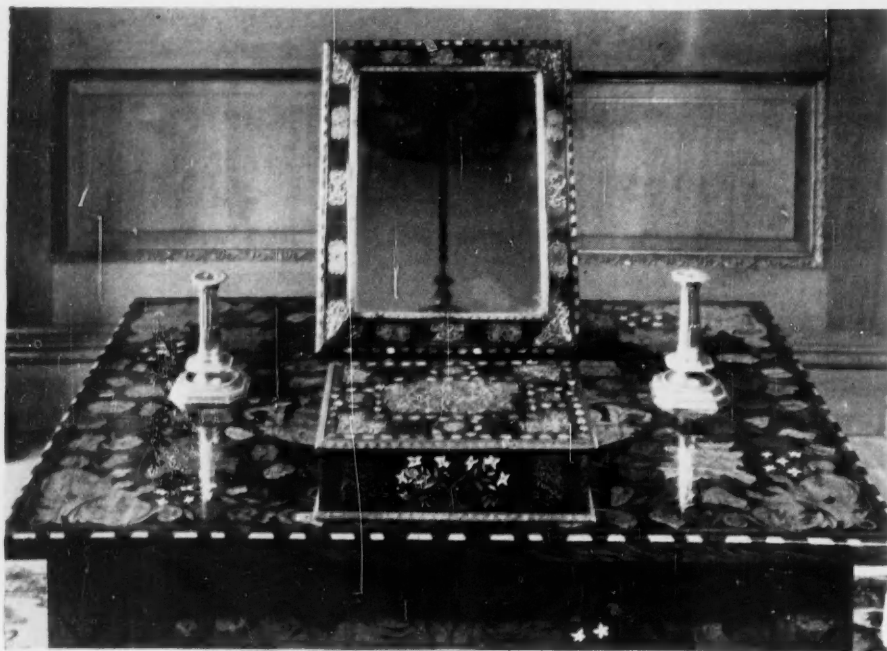
Sir Samuel Sandys was less distinguished than his brothers, Sir Edwin and the traveller and poet, George, but he served as Sheriff of Worcestershire and was a Member of Parliament. He had another estate at Wickhamford, near Evesham, which, like Ombersley, had been a possession of the abbey, and both he and his eldest son, Edwin, are buried in the chancel of Wickhamford Church. They both died in 1623, the son less than three weeks after his father, and their alabaster tombs share a single canopy. Edwin's son and successor, Samuel, inherited as a boy of eight and lived until 1685, when he was succeeded by his son, Samuel III, who died in 1701. This third Samuel was predeceased by his eldest son and so was succeeded by his grandson, Samuel IV, whose ownership lasted until 1770. He was the opponent of Walpole known to history as the "motion-maker" because he moved an address for Walpole's dismissal; in 1743, after a year as Chancellor of the Exchequer, he was created a peer. He it was who "built the house at Ombersley, which is strong, handsome and convenient" in the words of Nash, the county historian.



3.—THE SALOON. HANDSOME OAK PANELLING AND GEORGIAN FURNITURE



4 and 5.—CHIMNEY-PIECE AND (right) CARVED DOOR-CASE IN THE SALOON. The arms of Sandys impaling Tipping appear on the shield above the door



6.—IN THE SALOON. LATE 17th-CENTURY MARQUETRY AND EMBOSSED SILVER WITH A PAIR OF SILVER CANDLESTICKS (1691-2). (Right) 7.—MAHOGANY BERGÈRE, ONE OF A SET, COVERED WITH AUBUSSON TAPESTRIES OF ÆSOP'S FABLES

To-day the Court wears the early 19th-century dress given to it by the Marchioness of Downshire when she had the main building faced in stone, added a portico, pulled down the north and south wings which balanced one another, and built a new north wing attached to the main block and a large stable court. The 18th-century appearance of the house can be seen in the engraving of the Court and church made for Nash's *Worcestershire* by Valentine Green, later to become famous for his mezzotints. The part showing the house has been enlarged for reproduction here (Fig. 1). It has been suggested by the Rector, the Rev. G. W. Gillingham, in his recent book on Ombersley, as well as by other writers, that the main block was built in William and Mary's reign by the first peer's grandfather, but it is difficult to

reconcile this theory with Nash's definite statement, which is supported by other evidence.

Mr. Rupert Gunnis, when examining archives belonging to Lord Sandys, found a series of receipted bills for building work between the years 1723 and 1730. The earliest of them, dated December 4, 1723, is in respect of £400 "towards building at Ombersley" and is signed by the brothers William and Francis Smith jointly. All the rest are signed by Francis Smith alone, his brother having died in the interval. One, dated May 30, 1724, for £63, reads: "Received of Samuel Sandys, Esq., . . . on account of the building I undertook for him. I say received by me Fran. Smith." Between 1723 and 1727 inclusive, the receipts (which are probably not complete)

record sums totalling £1,767 paid to Smith and a final payment of £100 in 1730. In recent articles in *COUNTRY LIFE* we have come across the activities of Smith of Warwick as architect and builder at Lampport Hall, Northamptonshire, and Davenport House, near Bridgnorth. In the account of Davenport, mention was made of a memoir referring to Francis Smith (preserved in the Stokes family who were descendants of his daughter) in which he is described as "the far-famed architect of his day from whose plans . . . the great mansions of Ombersley Court, Kinlet, Patshull, Davenport House, etc., arose." Taken in conjunction with this statement, the payments to Smith can hardly be referred merely to the wings or outbuildings on the assumption that the main block had been built in the 1690s; and indeed the



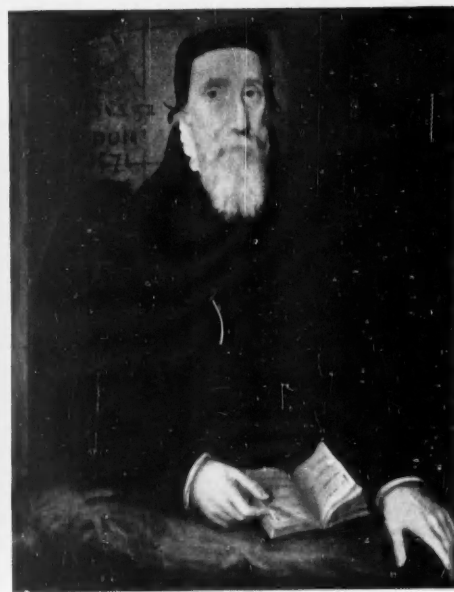
8.—17th-CENTURY DUMMY-BOARD FIGURES. (Right) 9.—CRAYON DRAWING OF AN UNKNOWN LADY, SCHOOL OF LELY

building shown in Green's engraving has just the characteristics of a Smith of Warwick house: two storeys of approximately equal height surmounted by a cornice and attic storey, a hipped roof rising from behind a parapet, stone dressings which include pronounced architraves and keystones. The elevation is very similar to that of the west front of Kinlet Hall, Shropshire, but there the balancing wings spread out farther.

The entrance front, which faces east, is the one shown in the engraving. To-day, besides being cased in stone, it has a projecting portico of coupled Ionic columns. But the interior, at least on the ground floor, is little altered and has kept most of its early Georgian woodwork and decoration. A high hall taking in two storeys was favoured by the Palladian architects of Lord Burlington's circle, by whom it was sometimes called the "salon," but it is uncommon in Smith's houses, although there was one at Wingerworth Hall, Derbyshire, a house usually attributed to him but now pulled down. In the hall at Ombersley (Fig. 2) there is a gallery running across the side opposite the entrance; the wall treatment depends on a series of arched doorways and recesses; the lower section has an order of Ionic pilasters fashioned in plaster, and there are confronting fireplaces of stone, each surmounted by an heraldic escutcheon of a Baroque character recalling the ornaments on the front of the Court House at Warwick. These escutcheons display the Sandys arms quartered, and the left hand one has an inescutcheon bearing the quartered arms of Tipping for Letitia Tipping, whom Samuel Sandys married in 1725, and, therefore, showing that the decoration is not earlier than that date. The ceiling, divided into compartments by enriched members, has four pendant ornaments in circles and a central "flower," from which hangs an elegant Regency light fitting. Under the gallery are the portraits of Archbishop Sandys and his younger son, George, and, on either side of the central doorway, two formal helmets displaying the Sandys griffin. Two fine tall-case clocks—one by Windmills and Elkins, the other by Daniel



10.—WILLIAM OF WYKEHAM.



(Right) 11.—EDWIN SANDYS, WHEN BISHOP OF LONDON (1571)

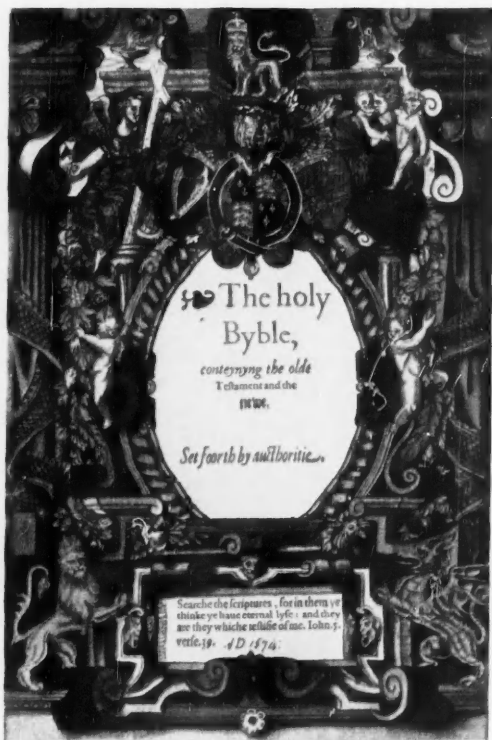
Quare's successors, Daniel and Thomas Grignon—and a table with an inlaid top, made in 1848 from the woods of every species of tree growing in the park, call for particular mention among the furniture.

Lying behind the hall, with windows facing to the west, is the saloon (Fig. 3), an oak-panelled room recalling in its treatment some other rooms in Smith houses, for example, the Velvet Drawing Room at Stoneleigh Abbey and the Oak Drawing Room at Wingerworth, both of which were given, as here, a great order of Corinthian pilasters. An accomplished carver worked on the doorcase to the hall (Fig. 5), which displays the naturalistic technique of the age of Gibbons, but the shield bearing the arms of Sandys impaling Tipping shows that the date again is not before 1725. In the design of the overdoor use is made of a curious form of detached pediment, if such it can be called, which is also found with variations in other

Smith houses. The chimney-piece, in white veined, dove grey, and black-and-gold marbles, has a panel with a child's head and festoons of flowers carved in relief (Fig. 4), rather like the one in the library at Lamport Hall; in common with others in the house, it probably came from Smith's marble yard at Warwick. The portrait group above the mantel, by Hudson, is of the first Lord Sandys's mother-in-law, Lady Tipping and her two boys, who died young. To the right, above the door, is Archbishop Sandys and his wife, Cecily Wilford, in an oblong, which has a companion picture opposite portraying his son, Sir Samuel and his wife, Mercy Culpeper. Full-lengths on the walls include the victor of La Hogue, the Earl of Orford (about whom there will be more to say next week), and his uncle, the first Duke of Bedford, in his garter robes—a fine Kneller, signed and dated 1692 (to the right of the door in Fig. 3). These Russell portraits and others of the Cheke family came to Ombersley through the heiress, Letitia Tipping.

The saloon is the setting of some notable pieces of 18th-century furniture. Among several gilt pieces are a pair of Queen Anne candlestands on scrolled tripods (Fig. 4), the late Georgian china stand carved with rams' heads and coiling snake (also seen in Fig. 4), a pair of early Georgian carved and gilt side tables, and a pedestal of William Kent type carved in the form of a console. A walnut stool with club feet is covered with its contemporary *petit point* needlework and has for companions a remarkable set of mahogany bergères of the Louis Quinze type that was adapted and naturalised by Adam. The coverings of these chairs are Aubusson tapestries illustrating Aesop's Fables (Fig. 7). The handsome group in Fig. 6 takes us back to late Stuart days. The table is an elaborate example of floral marquetry, as is the box, which is further decorated with silver mounts, the middle one having an elaborate cypher. The mirror also has silver mounts, which are applied to oyster veneers and alternate with reserves of inlay, and there is an outer border of husks stained green. The pair of silver candlesticks bear the date stamp for 1691-2. Although they are not in the saloon, it is convenient to illustrate with this group the two dummy-board figures of children (Fig. 8) and a charming late 17th-century crayon drawing of a young lady, anonymous as to sitter and artist, but not unworthy of Lely (Fig. 9).

(To be continued)



12.—THE TITLE PAGE OF ARCHBISHOP SANDYS'S BIBLE, PRINTED IN 1574. (Right) 13.—THE NAMES AND BIRTHDAYS OF THE ARCHBISHOP'S CHILDREN



18th-CENTURY YEOMAN RECIPES

By J. WENTWORTH DAY

IN days of dull gastronomy, when a rump steak, oyster and kidney pudding is as rare a bird as a saddle of Southdown lamb, there is a sad nostalgia in turning the leaves of by-gone cookery books. True, there is a fashion for Mrs. Beeton, who has arisen, phoenix-like, in new editions of gourmandising splendour. The ponderous magnificence of her Victorian dinners is an unassailable and integral pillar of the British Constitution. But who to-day gives a thought—or even remembers the name—of Mrs. Glasse, the mother of all cookery books?

Before me lies a first edition of her masterpiece *The Art of Cookery Made Plain and Easy* (1747), bound in leather, its pages yellow with age. On the title page, in her own writing, is the

warning against the expensiveness of French cookery.

Nowadays, wood-pigeons, which before the war were dear at sixpence each, have fetched as many shillings in the open market—tough and uneatable though they usually are. So, when next I shoot a bagful of "dows" I shall follow the advice of Mrs. Glasse who, under the title of *Pigeons Transmogrified*, says this:—

"Take your pigeons, season them with pepper and salt, take a large piece of butter, make a puff-paste, and roll each pigeon in a piece of paste; tie them in a cloth so that the paste do not break, boil them in a good deal of water; they will take an hour and a half boiling; untie them carefully that they do not break;

The cockney may, however, prefer "Pigeons in Pimlico" which, according to Mrs. Glasse should be prepared in the following manner:—

"Take the livers, with some fat and lean of ham or bacon, mushrooms, truffles, parsley, and sweet herbs, season with beaten mace, pepper, and salt; beat all these together with two raw eggs, put it into the bellies, roll them all in a thin slice of veal, over that a thin slice of bacon; wrap them up in white paper, spit them on a small spit, and roast them. In the meantime make for them a ragoo of truffles and mushrooms chopped small, with parsley cut small; put to it half a pint of good veal gravy, thicken with a piece of butter rolled in flour; an hour will do your pigeons; baste them, when enough lay them in your dish, take off the paper, and pour your sauce over them. Garnish with patties, made thus: take veal and cold ham, beef-suet, an equal quantity, some mushrooms, sweet herbs and spice; chop them small, set them on the fire, and moisten with milk or cream; then make a little puff-paste, roll it, and make little patties about an inch deep and two inches long; fill them with the above ingredients, cover them close and bake them; lay six of them round a dish. This makes a fine dish for a first course."

She has another recipe, particularly usable during the winter months when old, barren partridges are not always amenable to roasting. This recipe, if one substitutes cooking fat for butter, is applicable to either partridges or pigeons, and for that matter might even be applied to an old cock pheasant, if you stuff him with chestnuts, first roasted and blanched. Here is Mrs. Glasse's recipe:—

"Skewer them neatly, season them with Cayenne, salt and beaten mace, fry them in butter not too brown, put them into a stew-pan with a little brown gravy, cover them close, and stew them gently till tender, keep turning them over. Prepare the cabbage thus: take red cabbage when touched with frost, cut it round as you would to pickle, wash it, put it into a stew-pan with three ounces of butter, a pint of spring water, a little Cayenne and salt, a halfpenny worth of cochineal beat, cover it close, stew it gently quite tender, pour out some of the liquor, and put in some of the gravy that the pigeons are stewed in, squeeze in juice of lemon so as to make it taste, and a spoonful of melted butter, and give it a boil, lay your pigeons or partridges on the dish, with the remainder of the gravy they were stewed in; lay the cabbage over and about them, so send them up; do white or green cabbage the same way cut into quarters, leaving out the cochineal; this may be sent up without meat, but remember to use a little gravy."

Now that pike fishing is in swing, it is well to remember that this fish, properly cooked, is a most excellent dish. Plain baked pike has a lot to recommend it, particularly if it is a fish caught from a river and not from a stagnant pool. But pike, like other coarse fish, are all the better for care and attention. Mrs. Glasse's method of "dressing a pike" is capable of little improvement even in these days of dull standardisation in the kitchen. True, one may have to substitute margarine for butter, but otherwise I commend her advice:—

"Scale and gut your pike, and wash it very clean, then make a stuffing in the following manner; take the crumb of a penny loaf soaked in cream, a quarter of a pound of butter, an anchovy chopped fine, a handful of parsley, and a little sweet herbs chopped fine; the liver or roe of the fish bruised, a little lemon-peel chopped fine, a little grated nutmeg, some pepper and salt, the yolks of two eggs; mix all together, and put it in the belly of your fish, sew it up, and then make it in the form of an S; rub the yolk of an egg over, grate some nutmeg on it, and strew some crumbs of bread on it; put some butter here and there on it; put it on an iron plate, and bake it or roast it before the fire in a tin-oven; for sauce, good anchovies and butter, and plain melted butter. Garnish with horse-radish and barberries, or you may boil it without the stuffing."



A WOOD-PIGEON FEEDING. *The Art of Cookery Made Plain and Easy*, by Mrs. Glasse, the 18th-century Mrs. Beeton, gives several attractive recipes for cooking wood-pigeons

sprawling signature "H. Glasse" and, opposite, the signature of my great-grandmother, with the date 1812.

There is no nonsense about Mrs. Glasse. She goes straight to the point in a direct, English sort of way. She never uses a French word if she can help it. Her recipes are for the tables of the squire and the yeoman. There is none of that pandering to the fatted palates of city aldermen, and the rich bourgeoisie of middle-class industrial Victorian England which distinguishes the highly expensive pages of Mrs. Beeton.

Mrs. Glasse is, above all, of the earth, earthy, with a strong tang of the salt sea to flavour her wholesome table. Almost everything in her menus can be caught, shot, netted or grown on the land or in the waters of the manor or the farm. Her herbs are almost invariably those which you can grow in an English herb garden under a sunny wall. And always she watches the pennies, with a direct word of

lay them in the dish, and you may pour a little good gravy in the dish. They will eat exceeding good and nice, and will yield sauce enough of a very agreeable relish."

To make quite certain that you can transmogrify your pigeon to suit your taste, she then gives a second way. Here it is:—

"Pick and clean six small young pigeons, but do not cut off their heads, cut off their pinions, and boil them ten minutes in water, then cut off the ends of six large cucumbers and scrape out the seeds, put your pigeons into the cucumbers, but let the head be out at the ends, and stick a bunch of barberries in their bills, and then put them in a tossing pan with a pint of veal gravy, a little anchovy, a glass of red wine, a spoonful of browning, a little slice of lemon, Cayenne and salt to your taste, stew them seven minutes, take them out, thicken your gravy with a little butter rolled in flour, boil it up and strain it over your pigeons, and serve them up."



"PIKE, PROPERLY COOKED, IS A MOST EXCELLENT DISH"

She has many and various recipes for cooking eels and other coarse fish but, what is new to me and maybe to other readers, is her recipe for an eel soup, which is:—

"Take eels, according to the quantity of soup you would make, (a pound will make a pint of good soup) so, to every pound of eels put a quart of water, a crust of bread, two or three blades of mace, a little whole pepper, an onion, and a bundle of sweet herbs; cover them close and let them boil till half the liquor is wasted, then strain it, and toast some bread, cut it small, lay the bread into the dish and pour in your soup; if you have a stew-hole, set the dish over it for a minute, and send it to table. If you find your soup not rich enough, you must let it boil till it is as strong as you would have it. You may make this soup as rich and good as if it was meat. You may add a piece of carrot to brown it."

Of the rest of this fascinating book there are, as one would expect, many directions for the making of home-made wines, of which I commend most earnestly her recipe for blackberry wine. It has the initial advantage that relatively little sugar is needed. The result, as I know from experience, goes down like the Brigade of Guards with fixed bayonets and nestles in the stomach with a most comfortable benison. This is how you go about it:—

"Take your berries when full ripe, put them into a large vessel of wood or stone, with a spicket (spigot) in it, and pour upon them as much boiling water as will just appear at the top of them; as soon as you can endure your hand in them, bruise them very well, till all the berries be broke; then let them stand close covered till the berries be well wrought up to the top, which usually is three or four days; then draw off the clear juice into another vessel; and add to every ten quarts of this liquor one pound of sugar, stir it well in, and let it stand to work in another vessel like the first, a week or ten days; then draw it off at the spicket through a jelly bag into a large vessel; take four ounces of isinglass, lay it in steep twelve hours in a pint of white wine; the next morning boil it till it be all dissolved upon a slow fire; then take a gallon of your blackberry juice, put in the dissolved isinglass, give it a boil together, and put it in hot."

Most of us have drunk cowslip wine or paigle tea as it is called in East Anglia, plum wine, turnip wine and the rest, but I confess that birch wine is new to me. Mrs. Glasse's recipe says:—

"This season for procuring the liquor from the birch trees is the beginning of March, while the sap is rising, and before the leaves shoot out; for when the sap is come forward, and the leaves appear, the juice, being long digested in the bark, grows thick and coloured, which before was thin and clear. The method of procuring the juice is, by boring holes in the body of the tree, and putting in fossets, which are commonly made of the branches of alder, the pith being taken out. You may without hurting the tree, if large, tap it in several places, four or five at a time, and by that means save from a good many trees several gallons every day; if you have not enough in one day, the bottles in

which it drops must be corked close, and rosined or waxed; however, make use of it as soon as you can. Take the sap and boil it as long as any scum rises, skimming it all the time; to every gallon of liquor put four pounds of good sugar, the thin peel of a lemon, boil it afterwards half an hour, skimming it very well, pour it into a clean tub, and when it is almost cold, set it to work with yeast spread upon a toast, let it stand five or six days, stirring it often, then take such a cask as will hold the liquor, fire a large match dipped in brimstone, and throw it into the cask, stop it close till the match is extinguished, tun your wine, lay the bung on light till you find it has done working; stop it close and keep it three months, then bottle it off."

There is to-day a revived fashion for mead, and for this her recipe is short and simple:—

"Take ten gallons of water, and two gallons of honey, a handful of raced ginger; then take two lemons, cut them in pieces, and put them into it, boil it very well, keep it skimming; let it stand all night in the same vessel you boil it in, the next morning barrel it up, with two or three spoonfuls of good yeast. About three weeks or a month after, you may bottle it."

Of all her recipes I like best that for elderberry wine, still one of the best cures for a winter cold. You must, says Mrs. Glasse:—

"Pick the elder-berries when full ripe, put them into a stone jar and set them in the oven, or a kettle of boiling water till the jar is hot through; then take them out and strain them through a coarse cloth, wringing the berries,

and put the juice into a clean kettle; to every quart of juice put a pound of fine Lisbon sugar, let it boil, and skim it well; when it is clear and fine, pour it into a jar; when cold, cover it close, and keep it till you make raisin wine; then when you turn your wine, to every gallon of wine put half a pint of the elder-syrup."

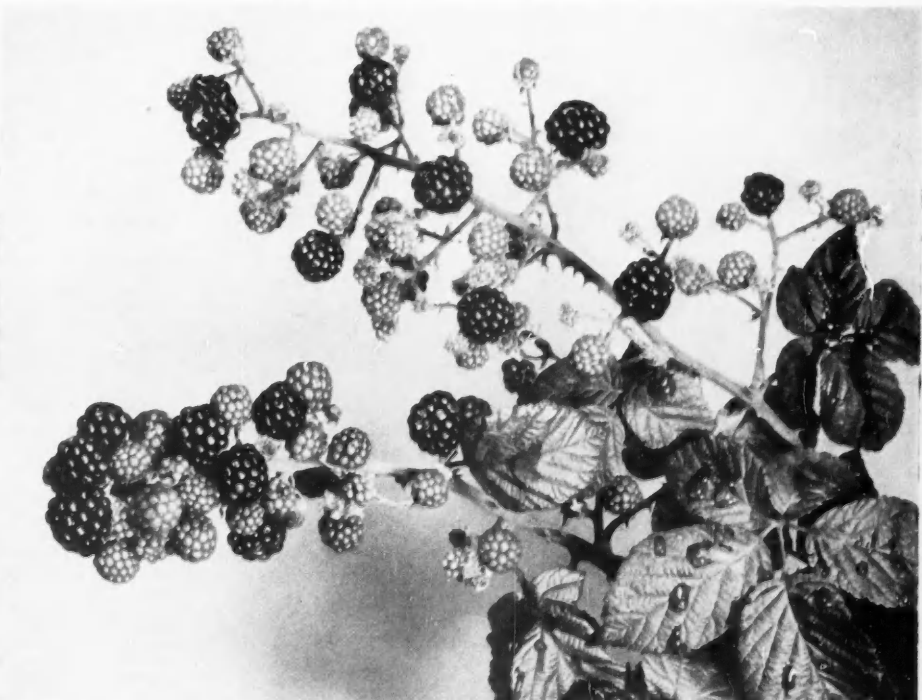
She is careful in her directions for "The Polite and Useful Art of Carving," wherein we are told how to "rear" a goose, "unbrace" a mallard, "unlace" a rabbit, "wing" a partridge, "allay" a pheasant or teal, "dismember" a heron "thigh" a woodcock, curlew or snipe, "display" a crane, or "lift" a swan.

Mindful of the hazards of life in the country which, even to-day, include the risks of being gored by a bull, savaged by horses, ripped up by boars or bitten by dogs, she includes two "certain cures" for the bite of a mad dog, which include such unpleasing ingredients as lichen ash-coloured ground liverwort, Venice treacle and the filings of pewter or tin.

Finally, with some thought for those who dwelt in the London of her day, she ends on the last page, with precise directions "How to keep clear from Bugs." Here it is:—

"First take out of your room all silver and gold lace, then set the chairs about the room, shut up your windows and doors, tack a blanket over each window, and before the chimney and over the doors of the room, set open all closets and cupboard doors, all your drawers and boxes, hang the rest of your bedding on the chair-back, lay the feather-bed on a table, then set a large broad earthen pan in the middle of the room, and in that set a chafing-dish that stands on feet, full of charcoal well-lighted; if your room is very bad, a pound of rolled brimstone; if only a few half a pound; lay it on the charcoal, and get out of the room as quick as possible you can, or it will take away your breath; shut your door close, with the blanket over it, and be sure to set it so as nothing can catch fire; if you have any India pepper, throw it in with the brimstone."

"You must take great care to have the door open whilst you lay in the brimstone, that you may get out as soon as possible. Do not open the door under six hours, and then you must be very careful how you go in to open the windows: then brush and sweep your room very clean; wash it well with boiling lee, or boiling water with a little unslacked lime in it; get a pint of spirits of wine, a pint of spirits of turpentine, and an ounce of camphire, shake all well together, and with a bunch of feathers wash your bedstead very well, and sprinkle the rest over the feather-bed and about the room."



"I COMMEND MOST EARNESTLY MRS. GLASSE'S RECIPE FOR BLACKBERRY WINE"

ONE MORE PUTTER

A Golf Commentary by BERNARD DARWIN

WITH the coming of a new golfing year comes the President's Putter at Rye, which begins on January 8. All who play in it or watch it are now looking keenly forward and praying hard that we may once again be spared the snow which has mercifully left us unscathed since the first tournament in 1920. There is a larger and stronger field than ever, with a considerable and most welcome infusion of undergraduates. When I look at the entry I feel as I do before a championship, that I really do not see how any one player can win. If Leonard Crawley can equal the achievement of Ernest Holderness and Roger Wethered in winning for a third year running—and he is perfectly capable of it—he will deserve all manner of laurel crowns. If I may be allowed an egotistical remark, this will be my last Putter as President of the Society since I am retiring, I am afraid after too long a tenure of office, in favour of our old and faithful friend Lord Morton of Henryton. So I particularly hope that I may be granted a good, snowless, frostless one to end with.

Though we yearly take such risks, the fact that this tournament is held in mid-winter gives it a unique quality and a unique charm—I am sometimes tempted to wish both to eat my cake and have it; that is to have all the wintry glory and warmth and comfort of the Dozay House fire, together with the long light of a spring evening. Clearly if we had that light we should have some cheerful antics after tea when the day's fierce work was over.

"It is hard if I cannot start some game on these lone heaths," wrote Hazlitt, and with such a company of friends we could surely start some game at Rye. It might take the form of that admirable contest between two teams of five apiece, each armed with one club, which must be played in strict rotation, no matter how the ball lies; but there might be something almost profane about that, since I always think of that game as sacred to Worlington. Another possibility is one of those cross-country matches, in which a player backs himself to go from one point on the course to another in a certain number of strokes, a match by the way in which he always seems to have a good notion beforehand what he can do and thus to rob those who too lightheartedly bet against him.

This was put into my head by a chance dip into an ancient book, the first book I ever perused, wherein is described just such a match on this very same course. It must have been

in the summer of 1909, and I remember it well. It was a day of high wind, and it was that wind that led my poor friend X to his ruin. He betted Y that he could not play from the sixth tee to the 11th hole in 25 strokes. I must explain that the fifth hole in those days went the length of some two good shots beyond the row of Coast Guards' houses in the direction of Camber on ground that is used no more, and the sixth came back to a green close to the Coast Guards. Those who know Rye will at once appreciate that, whereas much of the country was open, there were two danger spots. First, the player had to get round the Coast Guards' houses on the right, and might become involved with the road and other troubles, unless, indeed, he had the homicidal hardihood to carry gardens, houses and all. The other perilous place was the narrow gut between the sandhills on the left and the road on the right, just beside that then famous public house, the Billy. Here then was considerable chance of grief, especially with a hostile wind that might easily blow the ball out of bounds.

That is where the wind played the part of a traitor to X and a friend in need to Y. When the bet was made it was blowing hard against the player, but he had till six o'clock, and about 4.30 it swung right round and blew him along to victory. So, in fact, the match was not very exciting. Y, sticking to a battered but serviceable short spoon, slogged his way gaily along. He gave the Coast Guards a wide berth, and though once or twice his ball seemed doomed it always stopped, as the spectators venomously remarked, about a foot short of a bunker. There was a small thrill by the Billy, for Y first clearly named his stroke by warning two children out of the way by the roadside, and then hooked far to the left to undeserved safety. After that X's money was irretrievably lost. Y, getting a little too confident, did put a ball into the cabbage garden by the 11th green, but that cooled him down, and he holed out carefully in 22. Barring his two final putts he had played only two shots with anything but his trusty spoon which showed—well, it is now such a long time ago that I will not venture an opinion.

I do not know in how many strokes a modern "tiger" would back himself to cover that distance, but it would have to be considerably less than 25. Cross-country feats seemed harder then, for I believe it was that summer that M. Bleriot flew the Channel and that I heard of it with some incredulity when playing a round at

Rye. The great thing about our humble little match was that the ball had to be played where it lay. It seems to me that when the ball can be teed most of the fun has gone out of it. *The Golfers' Handbook* tells me about all manner of cross-country matches, but most of them are vitiated for me by the lifting under penalty. There was, for instance, the match from Maidstone to Littlestone, some five and thirty miles. The winner backed himself to beat 2,000 and took 1,087 strokes, but as he is stated to have lost 17 balls and employed seven caddies in the course of three days, his profit remaining from his stake of £5 must have been imperceptible. The match which it pleases me to read about in the same invaluable work is the one in which two parties chose different roads. The two were the celebrated Willie Campbell and Mr. Hall Blyth, and the course was from Point Garry at North Berwick to a hole at Gullane. Campbell went by the shore and his opponent took the longer but easier road inland through Dirleton. It was the canny amateur that won, for Willie was caught in the rocks; the tortoise may be said to have beaten the hare.

As I said before the man who undertakes the task seems nearly always to win the money. In the instances given in *The Golfers' Handbook* there are enumerated some eight successes to a single failure. I am far from saying that the winner had had a secret trial, but I fancy he had thought the matter out more carefully than have those who bet against him. The same remark applies generally to those matches that were so frequent in Regency times. People like George Osbaldeston—the Squire—or Captain Barclay were ill men to bet with. They had a very shrewd idea of what they could do and they did not, in a notable phrase of the Squire's about one such match, let the cat out of the bag.

I seem to have wandered some way across country from Rye where I started. Let me get back there to bestow on it a final benediction. There are many pleasant occasions in the golfing year, but I have no doubt at all that for me this is the best of all—Lamberhurst, Hawkhurst, Sandhurst, Newenden, Iden, Playden—the names of the villages on the drive are as home-coming bells in my ears. If the wind blows very cold and shrill and I am not quite up in time to see the first couples drive off from those two high, exposed tees at 8.30, well, age has its privileges; I shall be there a little later, and thank goodness both the ninth and the home green are very near the club-house and—in extreme necessity—the cherry brandy.

DUCK FLIGHT, ST. JAMES'S PARK

By ANTHONY BUXTON

A BRIGHT frosty evening, dead still, the time about 4.15 p.m. and the place the bridge across the water in St. James's Park. I had an hour to spare and the time made me think of duck at evening flight, so I walked down to the Park.

There was a good deal of ice at the western end and a mass of duck towards the Admiralty, partly because of the attraction by the water's edge, a nurse and two children out of a pram, under whose cushions was a goodly store of bread. I joined this party and it was difficult to say whether the fowl were more excited and pleased with the human trio or the humans more pleased with the fowl. The whole lot of them were gabbling with excitement; a fat old mallard duck waddled up to the nurse and tickled her ankle with its bill, two drakes fought furiously over a bit of bread, geese cackled and walked round and round with their necks out, teal ran about on the gravel, while pochard, tufted, widgeon, pintail and coots jostled each other in the water and all talked at once. The nurse obviously came from Yorkshire. "Well, we'll 'av to pack oop, children. Doocks 'll be goin' to bed," and reluctantly the children were "packed oop" in the pram and to the obvious dismay of ducks and geese the little party of benefactors moved slowly away down the path for home.

Of course the nurse was wrong: the ducks

were not going to bed. It was now 4.30 p.m. and they were all waking up, ready to go out to dinner and talking about it, some of them already beginning to leave on the evening flight. I walked quickly back to the bridge to get the best view up and down the water. There was a good yellow light towards Buckingham Palace in the west, so that was the best way to look. Parties of duck were now in sight in the air almost all the time, but the peak of the flight was between 4.40 and 4.50 p.m. Mallard, pochard, tufted duck buzzed past, some of them so low that I ducked my head. Most of the divers seemed to steer south-west, leaving Buckingham Palace on their right, but many headed north-west and north and many more went east, making apparently for the Thames estuary. Where were they all going? Divers would no doubt seek sheets of deep water, but mallard, teal, widgeon and other surface feeders would go to shallows for their main feed of the 24 hours. I tried to determine which sort of duck flew the fastest and thought that the pochard won, but weight seems to give an advantage and I may well have underestimated the pace of the heavier mallard.

The preliminaries to the take-off of duck at flight always amaze me—both the crescendo of conversation and the quick excited movements on the water. A party of four mallard swam out west beneath me from under the

bridge to a point about 10 yards away and sat on the water in a good light. The ducks quacked louder and louder, the drakes made excited higher calls and kept poking at each other with their bills and taking little short quick swims jerking their necks up and down. The noises and the movements got more and more animated—then suddenly a pause, a swish, and they were off—to heaven knows where for the night. Presumably birds which in St. James's Park flocked to the feet of human beings demanding food would, in a moment, be transformed outside the sacred precincts into the wildest of fowl shunning the sight and the sound of man.

I wondered, as I walked away, whether I could have caught a duck with a butterfly net off that famous bridge. It would not have been easy: the birds which seemed to come within shot of such an instrument were very hard to see in time against a background of dark water: there was a sound of wings and they were past. It would need a good ear, a good eye, a quick arm, a long handle and a mighty big strong net. Has anyone ever tried? No doubt the Japanese could teach us how to do it, but these are Royal Sacred Duck and the rule would have to be "Put them all back." Anyhow, evening flight at St. James's Park is a sight worth seeing. That Yorkshire nurse and her charges "packed oop" a bit too soon.

CORRESPONDENCE

A BLACK-THROATED DIVER RINGED

SIR,—I cannot cap Mr. Gerald Fane's story of the great northern diver (November 28, 1952), but your readers may be interested to hear of a black-throated diver which must have crash-landed on the road opposite a hotel in Seahouses on the stormy evening of November 20. It was making its way towards the hotel when it met the proprietor coming out: he picked the bird up, put it in the back of his car and brought it to me, quite uninjured.

After breakfasting off a few strips of whiting it was released next morning on the beach by my observatory, whence it scuttled away and began diving normally as soon as it had cleared the line of breakers. To the best of my knowledge these are the first examples of these two divers to have been ringed in Britain. It is odd that they should have occurred within a fortnight of each other: the great northern in Essex to be ringed there by an old friend of mine; the black-throated here in Northumberland.—E. A. R. ENNION, Director, Monks' House Bird Observatory, Seahouses, Northumberland.

SNAKES' SUICIDE

SIR,—None of your correspondents who wrote to you on the subject of snakes' and scorpions' suicide has, I think, mentioned the description by Lucretius (IV, 638):

... serpens, hominis quae tacta salvis

Disperit ac sese mandendo conficit ipsa.

"The snake which, touched by human saliva, feels completely undone and by biting herself finishes herself off."—E. WATSON-WILLIAMS, 65, Pembroke Road, Clifton, Bristol, 8.

vegetation came back to the land in the shifting cultivation practised by natives. This practice can be seen in Africa, I suppose, more clearly than in most parts of the world. In many parts of that great continent its effects have often been disastrous, and it is still helping the Sahara to spread as rapidly as it is. The Berbers (more than the Arabs) cultivate their little fields in the same way year after year until the soil will yield no more. When they move on, their fields have yielded not to wild vegetation to but sand, as shown in the second of my photographs. Anybody looking at these little dead fields must ask himself whether we also are not over-cropping our English fields, with the result that the soil, its heart gone, is being blown away in many places, or being washed away by the rain.

The evil can easily be stopped in Britain, with its kind climate, and the chief means of preventing erosion on our hills is contour ploughing. The Americans, with the example of their dust-bowls before them, are now the leading protagonists of contour ploughing, and we might well study their work in this respect. We might also be humble enough to look at the pattern of the Celtic fields, whose square boundaries still line our downs, as can be seen in my first photograph. These fields were so arranged that the soil did not slip out of them. I know one or two farmers who find it convenient to cultivate within these ancient banks instead of tearing through them with prairie busters.

We could also learn some valuable lessons from Spain, where the erosion problem is often acute. The Spaniards prevent the rich alluvial soil in the valleys from being swept to the sea by planting lines of poplars across the valleys, and we might bear this in mind when we are tempted to grub up all the

hedges on a slope. The Spaniards also make a great use of lucerne, which, deep-rooted as it is, will often hold the soil and, in addition, improve its texture.—B. T. DARBY, 49, Stammer Park Road, Brighton, Sussex.

LAMP STANDARDS

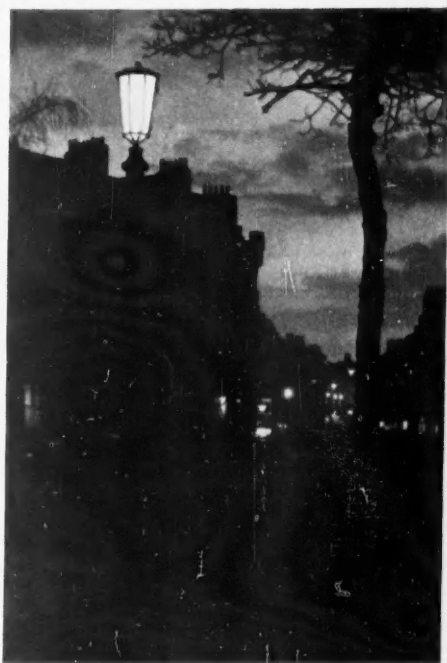
SIR,—There has been, not without good reason, a considerable outcry in the Press recently about the design of modern lamp standards, which may not appear too unsightly on a broad by-pass road, but look incongruous and out of scale in the narrow streets of an old town. It is good to be able to record at least one place where the standard examples have not been introduced: Bath. I send you a photograph, taken in Great Pulteney Street looking across Laura Place towards Argyle Street, showing one of the new fluorescent lights. It seems to me that this graceful lamp accords perfectly with Bath's notable architecture.—R. W., Bristol.

INSTINCT IN HORSES

SIR,—The article by Countess Edith Sollohub on the homing instinct of horses (November 21, 1952) and the letter from Mr. Campbell Fraser (December 5) are of interest to horsemen in that they both show that, however dark the night, horses can be relied upon to find their way home,

though the way may be blotted out by snow as in the first case or the sands of the desert as in the second. There is, however, nothing particularly remarkable in either of these cases. I have, when hunting on the South Downs, been enveloped in a blanket of fog so thick that the ears of my horse could hardly be seen, yet I could always leave it to the horse to get me home.

The letter from Mrs. Wynmalen (December 12) is much more interesting and it is hard to find an explanation. In this case a horse arrived at the family *estancia* carrying a blind rider who confessed that he had not the slightest idea where he was. Neither he nor the horse had apparently ever been there before. The horse, we are told, went straight up to the house, right to the verandah and stopped there. The curious thing is that before arriving there, and in the darkness of the night, the horse selected one of many tracks; the others led to the cattle-corral, the enclosures, where mules and donkey droves were feeding, the horse stables, the manager's house, feed-houses and so on. Yet he went on. Why did the horse apparently display such admirable sense that he landed his blind



A GOOD EXAMPLE OF MODERN STREET LIGHTING AT BATH

See letter: Lamp Standards



A STRETCH OF THE SOUTH DOWNS NEAR BRIGHTON, RIDGED TO PREVENT THE SOIL FROM BEING WASHED DOWN INTO THE VALLEY. (Right) EROSION ON THE GRAND SCALE: THE EDGE OF THE SAHARA NEAR DOUIRET

See letter: Soil Erosion

SOIL EROSION

SIR,—Mr. Haarer's article (December 12, 1952) should be read by all county agricultural committees and by every farmer with a hill. The danger of erosion in this country, though, owing to our climate, not so menacing as in some other lands, nevertheless ought not to be ignored, particularly as the Government's £5 and £10 per acre ploughing grants are bringing more and more permanent pasture up and more trees down—trees which have previously played an important part in pegging soil which might otherwise have been washed away.

I wonder, however, whether Mr. Haarer is right when he says that



rider, who confessed that he had dropped the reins on the horse's neck, at the very place where both would get the best of hospitality?

Perhaps we should give the horse credit for such intelligence, or could it have been that the horse, unknown to the rider and to Mrs. Wynmalen's family, had visited the *estancia* before? If he had, then it would be natural that he should act as he did, and there would be nothing to wonder at. Sound or scent, however, could have helped him, for the horse's hearing is very acute. It is a common sight to see horses at grass lift their heads when they evidently hear or sense something which is not noticeable to human beings.

There is another possibility and this may provide the answer. Horses undoubtedly have a sense which is hardly known to us, a kind of instinct that permits them to do the right thing or avoid the wrong, and the homing instinct is of course allied to this. Examples are the broken bridge-head, the great branch of the tree about to fall; we have all heard of the horse that stops and will not go on.

Did the horse take that track and press on to the final point because this very instinct told it that there at the house would be found the comfort and food which it sought? It is much nicer to hope that it was thinking of its blind rider, but that, I feel, is more than we can expect. — R. S. SUMMERHAYS, *Wimbledon, S.W.20.*

UP GETS A GUINEA!

SIR,—I first heard the old shooting jingle (about which you have recently published several letters) from my father fifty years ago. I believe that it was current as early as 1860, and was a quotation from either *Surtees* or *Punch*. I have heard only one version: "Up gets a guinea, bang goes sixpence, and down comes half a crown." Sixpence seems a high price for cartridges, even when breechloaders were first introduced, but this sum may have been intended to represent the guns' other expenses as well. I believe the saying was originally illustrated with a drawing by Leech. — VALENTINE FANE, *Carters, Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire.*

THE DUKE'S TRIUMPH

SIR,—In describing Chilton Park, Kent, last week, I mentioned, but could not illustrate, the accompanying painting entitled *Triumph of the Duke of Marlborough*. In the distance is a recognisable but inaccurate view of Blenheim Palace, and on the left the winged figure of Fame acclaims the victor's chariot. The painter has not hitherto been known, and there is no date, but the triumphal arch is inscribed: "*Imp. et D. Joan. Marlburgio. P.F. Inv. Ger. Bavar. Belg.*"



TRIUMPH OF THE DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH, POSSIBLY BY PAUL FERG, AT CHILSTON PARK, KENT

See letter: *The Duke's Triumph*

Unless "*P.F. Inv.*" stands for some imperial title, it must be the signature of the artist, who seems also to have portrayed himself in the bottom right-hand corner.

The only artist with these initials working at this date appears to have been Paul Ferg, whose attributes fit the case. He was born in Vienna in 1689, painted in Germany, and in England from 1718 to 1738. He was principally a painter of small landscapes on copper, and this painting, though large (39½ ins. by 67½ ins.), has the meticulous detail of a miniaturist. The words, "*Ger. Bavar. Belg.*" would apply both to the hero and to the artist, for it is most unlikely that the picture would have been painted after 1718; when he came to England: the probable date is fairly soon after 1704. In that case Ferg (if it were he) must have seen an early design for Blenheim, which can have been accessible only through the Duke or his entourage.

It is not known how or when the picture came to Chilton—it might be one of those left in the house by previous owners, possibly even the Hamiltons, who then lived there. Incidentally, Mr. Croft-Murray tells me that another picture with the same title, but 8 ft. 6 ins. by 12 ft. 3 ins., is recorded as by Francesco Sileter, the decorator of the gallery at

Mereworth. It was in the sale of Sir John Austen, Bt., of Prestage, on January 9 and 10, 1755, but its present whereabouts is not known. — CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY, *S.W.1.*

KILLER WHALES

SIR,—I read with interest Tom Mead's remarks about the killer whale, or grampus, related by Major C. S. Jarvis in *A Countryman's Notes* on November 14, 1952. I have had considerable experience of these mammals, both in Australia and more particularly in New Zealand. In Australia on many occasions, despite the harbour traffic of to-day, they proceed at intervals up Sydney Harbour in a procession—coming to the surface at intervals and proceeding to sea again just as regularly. Quite recently one of these whales became entangled with the anchor line of a small boat fishing outside Sydney Harbour. The grampus was far too big for the small boat and, as it proceeded rapidly to sea, only the presence of mind of one of the fishermen saved the situation: he cut the anchor rope.

To revert to New Zealand, where I lived over fifty years ago in the extreme north, at a place called Parengarenga, just south of the North Cape on the east coast—a big harbour with narrow deep water-channels and the rest mud flats after half ebb tide. The

killers, generally about twenty in number, crossed the shallow bar of the harbour, generally in early spring or late autumn, and ducked and dived their way up the narrow channel for at least five miles, and then proceeded about turn and went to sea again. No one took any notice or attempted to catch them. The enclosed photograph portrays a pack of killers surfacing just off the cliffs by Cape Brett, in north New Zealand.

On a number of occasions the East Coast, a long, white, sand beach stretching from Parengarenga Harbour to Mt. Camel at the mouth of Houhora Harbour, was turned into a pestilential spot, for at least twenty miles of the beach was strewn with the huge bodies of these mammals, who had either been chased ashore by sharks or lost their battle with humpback whales. A fight between these killers and humpbacks was a common sight off the coast. The Ninety Mile Beach, stretching from near Cape Maria van Diemen to Alupara, used to be littered with hundreds of the carcasses of grampus whales. Whether they had become stranded or been driven ashore by sharks or whales, no one ever seemed to know, but the stench of their putrefying bodies made the Ninety Mile (really eighty) almost impassable for months, and the only beneficiaries in the early stages of their stranding were sea birds and wild pigs, who were pleased to eat them. — EDWARD SAMUEL, Box 1330, G.P.O., Sydney, Australia.

RING BARKING BY HORNETS

SIR,—In your issue of December 12, 1952, Mr. T. H. A. Engleheart asks if ringing of young trees is one of the recognised activities of hornets. Step, in his book, *Bees, Wasps, Ants, and Allied Insects*, mentions that "Mr. Donisthorpe has called attention to the practice of hornets in Windsor Forest of 'ringing' the twigs of ash-trees by gnawing off the bark."

I have never seen trees thus treated by these insects, which are so common in the south of France, but perhaps the scarcity of ash trees may account for this. Both your correspondent and Mr. Donisthorpe specify ash trees.

The hornet is said generally to use soft decayed wood to make her paper pulp, whereas the common wasp and others use sound wood, a fact which makes this selection of ash still more interesting. Hornets, like other members of the wasp tribe, are obliged to enlarge their nests during the season to meet the requirements of the males



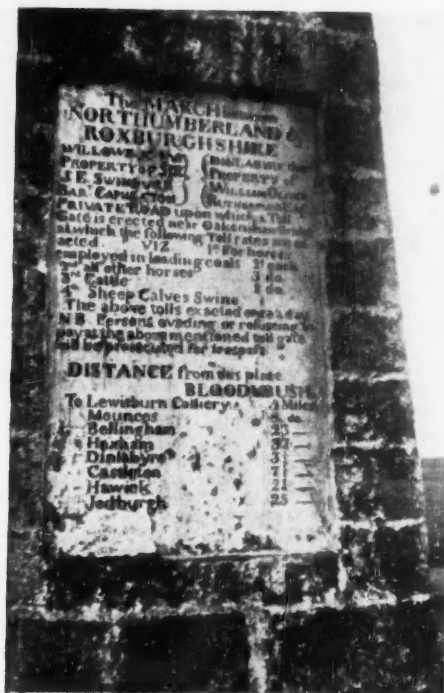
A PACK OF KILLER WHALES SURFACING OFF CAPE BRETT, NEW ZEALAND

See letter: *Killer Whales*

and large females which are produced later than the workers. Perhaps the consistency of young ash suits their particular style of paper manufacture. The subject is worthy of investigation in counties like Suffolk, which is still favoured by hornets.—C. N. BUZZARD, *The Haven, Newbury, Berkshire.*

TURNPIKE CHARGES

SIR,—I have read with interest in some of your recent issues different



MILESTONE WITH TURNPIKE CHARGES: ON THE BORDER

See letter: Turnpike Charges

accounts of old turnpike charges. I wonder how many of your readers have seen the Bloodybush stone, of which I enclose a photograph.

It lies at Bloodybush, on the boundary between Northumberland and Roxburghshire, on an old pack road between England and Scotland. The road itself is difficult to follow now, as it is overgrown with moor grasses and rushes.—WINIFRED I. EVANS (Mrs.), 24, Etal Avenue, Whitley Bay, Northumberland.

THE VANISHING SCRAPER

SIR,—I was much interested in your recent remarks and photographs of footscrapers and thought that your readers might be interested to see photographs of two examples which come from Surrey.

The wrought-iron one is at Farnham, and stands by a Georgian house; the cast-iron one is at Guildford, and its design suggests a date during the later years of George III's reign.—M. LITLEDALE, 1, The Cross Roads, Southbourne, Bournemouth, Hampshire.

CONTINENTAL MARTENS

SIR,—I wonder whether the animals to which Major Buxton referred in his letter of December 12, 1952, as being quite common near human dwellings in the Pas de Calais and elsewhere on the Continent may, in actual fact, have been not pine martens, but one of the other medium-sized *mustelidae*. In 1949 I had occasion to enquire into the status of the pine marten in France, and was given to understand by the Natural History Museum in Paris that this species was of widespread but somewhat sparse occurrence, principally in the forested regions.

On the Continent, as in Britain, the pine marten appears in general to be a creature of the wilder places. The closely related beech marten, is,

however, not nearly so self-effacing, and adopts on occasion an existence which might almost be described as parasitic upon mankind, in a useful way. It is a fairly familiar visitor to barns and other outbuildings in the agricultural districts of northern France, where it supplements to some extent the activities of the farmyard cats in keeping down vermin.

But for the incursion of the sea, the beech marten would undoubtedly have followed its cousin to Britain. It may, indeed, be questioned whether nature would not be assisted to advantage by a deliberate introduction to southern England, where the beech marten might well prove a useful ally in the war against grey squirrels. Its presence would probably cause fewer headaches to poultry-breeders and game-preservers than that of the pine marten, whose ancient reputation as a not-too-discriminate killer is, perhaps, not entirely ill-founded.—P. H. CARNE, *Ravenscroft, High Street, West End, Southampton.*

TWELFTH CAKE

SIR,—I have seen it stated that the merry-making of Twelfth Night persisted well into the 18th century and that the Twelfth Cake was quite a feature at the pastrycooks in Georgian times soon after Christmas. This is borne out by an old handbill of a Cheapside pastrycook, shown in the enclosed photograph, advertising a monster Twelfth Cake, 18 feet in circumference. Does the Twelfth Cake still appear in some

parts of England or Wales?—WAY-FARER, *Lancing, Sussex.*

A THIRD HAND FOR THE LADY

SIR,—I was interested in the letter from the Hon. Mrs. Rowland George about revolving cradles for use in needlework (December 5, 1952). There are two at my mother's home, both resembling the example on the left in



**Extraordinary Large
Twelfth Cake,
18 FEET IN CIRCUMFERENCE,
TO BE SEEN AT
ADAMS's, 41, Cheapside,
OPPOSITE WOOD STREET.**

This Cake considerably surpasses in size any that has hitherto been made in London, or, in fact, in the world: its weight is nearly Half a Ton, and actually contains Two Hundred and a Half weight of Currants, and upwards of ONE THOUSAND EGGS.

This Wonderful Cake is ready for Public inspection, as above, where orders for any part will be received, and duly attended to.

N.B.—Cake packed for any part of the United Kingdom.

Jan. 3, 1811.

HANDBILL OF 1811 ADVERTISING A MONSTER CAKE FOR TWELFTH NIGHT

See letter: Twelfth Cake

your photograph. The inscription on the label is: "Wool-winders; Great-Aunt Betsy; 1800." One works perfectly, though the other is a little stiff.—C. E. M. HARTLEY (Mrs.), *The Red House, Penny Compton, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire.*

THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE OTTER

SIR,—The Otter Committee, which is carrying out an enquiry into various aspects of the natural history of the otter with the aid of a grant from the Nature Conservancy, is anxious to collect as many dated records of pregnant otters and other cubs as possible. I should be grateful if any of your readers could send such records

to me with the following data: place, county, year, month, day of month (if possible) and approximate age of cubs. Please send records only, where cubs have definitely been seen, not where "somebody said there were cubs in that holt."—R. S. R. FITTER, Hon. Sec., The Otter Committee, *Greyhounds, Burford, Oxford.*

Old "Country Life" Copies.—May I appeal to your readers to help the unfortunate refugees still in European camps by giving them old copies of COUNTRY LIFE? They should be sent to me at the undermentioned address.—MARK GIBBS, Sec., Periodicals for Refugees, *Audenshaw Grammar School, Audenshaw, Manchester.*



FOOTSCRAPERS OUTSIDE HOUSES IN GUILDFORD AND (right) FARNHAM, SURREY

See letter: The Vanishing Scraper

NEW BOOKS

A DIPLOMATIST IN MANY LANDS

IT would be difficult for the autobiography of a diplomatist who has served in Buenos Aires, Lisbon, Mexico City, Brussels, Stockholm, Cairo, Berne, Ankara and Moscow not to be interesting. But *The Ruling Few, or The Human Background to Diplomacy*, by Sir David Kelly, until recently British Ambassador in Moscow (Hollis and Carter, 25s.), is more than usually readable, not least because the author is a man of firm purpose and strong opinions. In a frank confession of his diplomatic faith he affirms that he is not among those who believe that an ambassador should spend time trying to make contacts with the man in the street or to become a sort of high-class commercial attaché. In every country power, he stresses, lies ultimately in the hands of a small group, or groups, and it is, therefore, the first duty of a diplomatist to cultivate them and not be side-tracked by concern for those who sit below the political salt.

A consequence of this philosophy is that *The Ruling Few* is largely concerned with high life in the capitals where he has served. Not that it is any the worse for that. Sir David, besides being gifted more than most with the diplomatist's faculty for getting on with all sorts of men, is obviously a man of deep curiosity about almost every subject under the sun. Consequently, his book is remarkable not only for the insight it reveals into the politics of countries as diverse as Egypt and Russia, but also for its appreciation of their customs, traditions and culture in general. First and foremost, however, it is personality and its influence in politics in which he is interested, and he is at his best in his judgments on individual politicians and parties. His assessment of Russia and the Soviet ruling oligarchy, and his account of his meeting with Stalin, who has next to no personal contact with the representatives of foreign governments, is of particular interest at the present time.

J. K. A.

A GARDENING COMPENDIUM

IT AM by no means certain that C. E. Lucas Phillips has chosen the best title for his excellent book, *The Small Garden* (Heinemann, 15s.). At least, my own immediate reaction was that this was just another book for the back-yarder, and it was not until I began to read it that I discovered that, however modest Mr. Phillips may be about his qualifications and intentions, he has, in fact, written one of the best general books on gardening that I have studied for a very long time.

The plan of *The Small Garden* is conventional, but its treatment lifts it right out of the common rut. The book is divided into five sections dealing respectively with the fundamentals of gardening, flowers, food production, the control of pests and diseases, and a calendar of operations from January to December. There is also a series of nine appendices dealing with miscellaneous matters such as the John Innes seed and potting composts, the selection of plants for difficult places, the planting of town gardens, the choice of books and even the choice of nurseries. One of the most refreshing features of the book is that Mr. Phillips states frankly, without fear or favour, exactly what preparations he uses and from which of them he has had the greatest satisfaction.

It is in the selection of plants for the garden that Mr. Phillips is most to be commended, for his knowledge of plants is extensive and his taste is always good. As an example, I find myself very much in agreement with his warm advocacy of *Dierilla syriaca*, a lovely pink-flowered shrub

which is seldom mentioned by writers but in my view is far better than the over-publicised and rather ungainly *Dierilla* Eva Rathke. His list of barberries is also a good one, though he has missed what is to me the loveliest of all, namely, *D. Jamesiana*, a species curiously seldom seen, though it is as easy to grow as any and quite the loveliest with its long hanging racemes of pale yellow flowers followed by equally generous clusters of fruits which start by being a delightful *eau de nil* and ripen to a brilliant scarlet.

I am delighted to see that Mr. Phillips recommends the musk roses, which I regard as among the best shrubs for the busy gardener who has little time for pruning and other detailed cultural attentions. Felicia, Penelope and Cornelia are his selection from this delightful family, which can be counted on to give flowers from June to October. I have no doubt that when Mr. Phillips is asked to produce a new edition of this book, as I am sure he will be in a short time, he will add the new musk rose Grandmaster to his list. It is a beauty.

A. G. L. H.

BIRD LEGENDS

THE Greeks used to begin sheep-shearing when the kites returned in spring; in Somerset they say, "If a bittern flies over your head, make your will"; in Yorkshire the grey wagtail is called the oatseed-bird. Out-of-the-way information such as this helps to make *Bird Lore*, by C. E. Hare (Country Life, 18s.), a collection of legends, proverbs and superstitions about birds, something out of the general run of bird books. The author has ranged far and wide in search of his material: the literature of Greece and Rome, as well as that of most modern European countries, and the sayings of places as far apart as Mexico and the Andaman Islands, are drawn upon; and, though the book does not claim to be comprehensive, it contains a fund of information. The lack of an index, however, and of any logical principle governing the order in which the birds appear, detracts from its value as a work of reference. The local names of British birds, the origin of the names of various birds and general proverbs about birds are given in appendices.

Birds take third place to mammals and insects in *Nature's Way*, by L. Hugh Newman and Walter J. C. Murray (Country Life, 25s.), a series of short answers to some 350 questions about wild life. The range of the book may be gauged from a few of the subjects chosen at random: for example, Can any animals be called brave? Do fish change colour? Do insects communicate anger? Do birds bathe in dew? Are the worker states a success in nature? A large number of well-chosen photographs illustrate the text, which should prove a useful introduction, especially for younger readers, to the manifold problems of natural history.

The Mandarin Duck, by Christopher Savage, with a frontispiece and foreword by Peter Scott (A. and C. Black, 25s.), details the history, haunts and habits of an ornamental waterfowl that is spreading in more than one part of the country and has claims to be accepted as a wild British bird.

T. J.

DEVELOPMENT OF FRA ANGELICO

MR. JOHN POPE-HENNESSY is to be warmly congratulated on *Fra Angelico* (Phaidon Press, 3½ gns.), a brilliant volume which makes a fresh contribution to our knowledge of a master whose works are so well known that we are inclined to take them for

granted. Like all Phaidon Press publications, this monograph is a handsome publication, and the fine illustrations include a number of details from frescoes, which are of great assistance in studying works often difficult to examine *in situ*.

Much of the text is rightly concerned with attributions and with Fra Angelico's stylistic development. Here Mr. Pope-Hennessy, who won his spurs with his early volumes on Sassetta, Giovanni di Paolo and Uccello, is very much at home. He has the happy and enviable gift of being able to convey sure judgments without pedantry or overstatement. Sparing of footnotes, he makes up his mind without straying down devious bypaths; and the result of his investigations is to provide a subtle interpretation of an artist whose simplicity can prove deceptive.

Considerable research has occurred since the appearance of the last standard volume in English, by R. Langton Douglas, a charming and able publication which appeared in 1900, and the results of recent findings are displayed in the elaborate catalogue. With cool skill Mr. Pope-Hennessy has unravelled the complicated story of the San Marco decorations. His attribution of certain of the frescoes there to Zanobi Strozzi or the anonymous painter, now christened the Master of Cell 2, is most convincing. So, too, is his ascription of the predella and part of *The Coronation of the Virgin* in the Louvre to Domenico Veneziano.

Dominican Influence

This volume is not devoted to criticism of style alone. Fra Angelico is placed against the intellectual and spiritual background of his age, and his work is seen as part of that trend towards reform which marked the Dominican order, to which he belonged. The influence of this tendency is seen in his avoidance of rhetoric and in his expression of a collective, rather than a personal, mysticism. By reminding us of these essential facts Mr. Pope-Hennessy is able to explain how it was that Fra Angelico deliberately chose a style that harked back to the monumental forms of the Trecento. His temperament and the nature of his order impelled him to paint as he did, in cool, bright tones, and in well-balanced and solid forms. His determination to find a tangible expression of what he knew was right also permitted his poetical description of landscape, where the houses and trees possess the gentle plasticity that we associate with Corot. Fra Angelico accepted the material setting of life, as well as the tenets of his faith, as part of a natural order.

Though Fra Angelico is interpreted in a convincing and comprehensible way, Mr. Pope-Hennessy does not quite let himself go. He could have told us more about Fra Angelico's colours and even analysed the paintings themselves in greater detail. Yet, in this, as in his other books, he has a tantalising way of giving us a few paragraphs of general comment and then breaking off. If only a scholar of his competence would take the plunge and write more fully, and more dangerously, about a subject he knows and loves so well! Perhaps one day he will write a history of Italian art that will do for our generation what Mr. Berenson's volumes did for an earlier one.

For the *Faber Gallery of Oriental Art* (12s. 6d.) Mr. Wilfrid Blunt has written a charming study, *Japanese Colour Prints*, while Mr. W. G. Archer has followed up his recent studies of Indian painting with an essay on Kangra art. His lively essay, *Kangra Painting*, written with an eye to the modern movement, should win fresh admirers for this romantic and little-known school.

D. S.

AUGUSTUS HARE ABRIDGED

INDEFATIGABLE traveller, raconteur, writer and water-colourist, Augustus Hare personified in his life and work an aspect of Victorian society which is apt to be overlooked in the more serious-minded retrospects of the age, but which gives their prevalent colour to many country houses. He was the personification of the artistic, widely read and sentimentally romantic ladies, whose company he preferred, and whose sketches of their diligent wanderings in search of the picturesque adorned innumerable drawing-rooms. One can still profit from his delightful *Wanderings and Walks* in France, Italy, and parts of England. But few nowadays have the time or patience to cope with the six volumes of *The Story of My Life* (1896 and 1900). Mr. Malcolm Barnes is agreeably performing a valuable service by sifting the grain from the chaff in that portentous memoir, for it is as revealing of its age as that of Pepys in a prim way. Its first three volumes are now reduced to one, called *The Years with Mother* (Allen and Unwin, 25s.).

Fantastic Family

Thus abridged, it is extraordinarily readable, for the Hares were a fantastic family with an immense range of curious and interesting relations at home and abroad. They had inherited and pulled down Hurstmonceux Castle, in the shadow of which Augustus spent a wretched youth with an aunt who had adopted him. The "Mother" of the story, and adored by her "son," she was a weak, chronically ailing woman dominated by a piously sadistic monster, "Aunt Esther." There was nothing Victorian about Hare's real parents—they are Byronic creatures pursued by strange fates and curiously involved in the supernatural. Mother's queer malady, too, could only be alleviated by continual journeys abroad.

These introduced Augustus to his *métier*, in which his first step, after leaving Oxford, was the compiling of two of Murray's *Guides* to English counties. For this his connections and their introductions to country houses were invaluable. And so we get no end of anecdotes, ghost stories, extraordinary encounters, and remarkable reminiscences of English castles and Italian villas, at a time when living memory might go back to 1750. Hare, whose talent as a raconteur is still remembered by a few (including Mr. Somerset Maugham) could himself remember W. S. Landor and Wordsworth, whom he found a rather conceited old man but delighting in wild flowers.

C. H.

THE SECRET OF ONE-UPMANSHIP

AT the politest level, Stephen Potter's humour has been termed droll; at other levels, ponderous, intellectual, forced, or redolent of 'Varsitymanship. But there are times, and in *One-Upmanship* (Hart-Davis, 8s. 6d.) they are frequent, when, whether the reader is Potter-conditioned or instinctively anti-Potter, he is forced to grope reverently for adjectives of adequate enthusiasm. Superficial critics might, if asked to analyse the Potter ploy, say "Don't bother to analyse; just scan the humorists on S. Potter's shelves—Leacock, Heath-Robinson, Freud and the *New Statesman*"—but such counter-Potter ploys are inadequate. It is the Potter-phoenix that rises from the ashes of these old masters who holds the elusive secrets of his technique.

In his latest book—Mr. Potter's best—Winemanship, Doctorship and Carmanship are prime examples of high bahamanship. On the subtleties of spittlecraft Potter knows no peer; on the h'm tinge and troutmanship basic, read him for vital instruction as much as for mere enjoyment. Read him anyway, for this book is dual proof that he has practically mastered the principles of one-upmanship.

J. W. T.

A DOG'S LIFE

By SUZETTE (set down by Betty Holman, wife of H.M. Ambassador to Cuba)

I WAS born in the British Legation, Bucharest, early on a Sunday morning in May, 1947. My mother was a member of the dachshund aristocracy. I was never able to meet her relations, as she had taken refuge in the British Embassy. My father belonged to the proletariat. He was found walking the streets and was picked up and taken home for the wedding. My mother died soon after my brothers and sisters and I were born, so we were all brought up by a Doberman foster-mother. This caused quite a stir in the Communist world, as the frequent visits of my mistress to the house of the owners of the Doberman to enquire after our welfare created dark suspicions in the minds of the police. Now my family are dispersed throughout the world. I have one sister in the British Embassy in Rio and two brothers back in England enjoying rabbit hunting and the doggy smells of London.

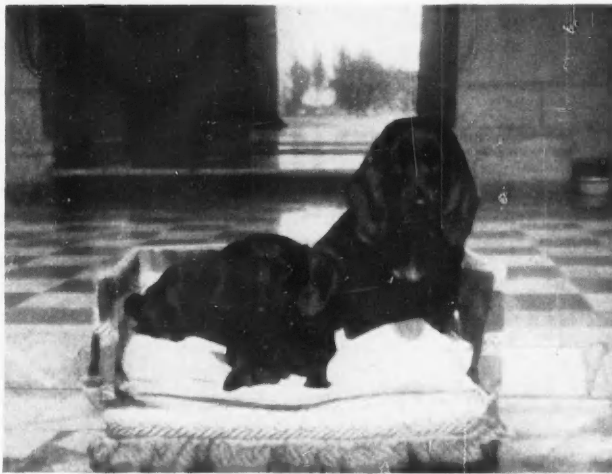
We had a very happy puppyhood. Before my mother died she took me in her mouth downstairs and left me under chairs and sofas in the midst of the diplomatic world. So I learnt diplomacy, discretion, tact and foreign tongues at an early age. At week-ends we were packed into a huge basket and taken to the summer lake resort outside Bucharest to exercise our limbs and gain experience of life. For our daily walks we could muster a number of our class and standing. We used to visit a wood outside the city for lovely gambols. However, they always had an element of danger, for we never knew whom we might meet. It might be Russian soldiers and then my mistress hurriedly called us to heel and we were carried back to the car. On one occasion we were lost, but with the help of the sun my master managed to guide us back to the car just as it was getting dark and we were shivering with cold and fear. Outside the family, my only house companion was a cocker spaniel called Jeannie.

Once I was taken for a trip into the Carpathian mountains, but the snow was so deep that at every step I had to leap into the air to see the way and I got so tired that my mistress, who was up to her waist in snow, had to carry me to keep me warm. After this episode I fell ill with pneumonia, but the doctor would only visit me after dark, as he was afraid to treat a reactionary dog. With good nursing, however, I completely recovered. One day I was frightened because I had killed a toad and felt very sick. So I told my mistress that all was not well. My face was covered with saliva and froth. My mistress, thinking that I had rabies, kept me tied up and put on her gum boots and rubber gloves, until the doctor told her the cause of my sickness.

How I used to dread the annual packing, when my mistress prepared to go away. For I knew that it meant a long and dreary wait for me until her return. But one year I spied her packing my bedding and arranging a basket with my brushes and toilet requirements. She was also making me a sheepskin-lined bag into which I was taught to creep. Then the day of departure arrived, but this time I was told to get into a train and not a car. My brothers and sisters came to the station with tears in their eyes to bid me good-bye. And you can imagine my joy to be in the train with my mistress and a permit to leave this Iron Curtain country.

At first my régime was difficult to understand, as the train stopped only at long intervals. When it did stop and I was taken out, I was so intent on sniffing the new smells that the whistle blew before the purpose of the walk had been accomplished. But I learnt my lesson very quickly and on future occasions the whistle never blew before the performance of my duty. At the Roumanian-Hungarian frontier station my mistress obtained special permission from the guards for a walk. I was

enjoying myself on the grass in a small garden, when four large and ugly men with fixed bayonets shouted to us to return to the train. I was so frightened that I never dared explore another frontier. At Budapest I was met by the British Minister, who kindly brought me a bag of bones. But I ate them so fast that they made me sick and for the rest of the journey such delicacies were strictly forbidden. The next day we reached Prague and my mistress took me for a stroll in the park opposite the station. The Czech dogs were extremely rude to me. They were jealous, because although there was a notice saying "Dogs not allowed on the grass," my mistress could not read Czech and in consequence I went where I liked. I



SUZETTE, THE DACHSHUND, WITH JEANNIE, A COCKER SPANIEL.

spent a wonderful night at the Embassy, a rambling old palace where I was able to chase the family cat up and down the back stairs without being seen. But eventually I was heard and was then firmly secured in my room until we left the next day. The train from Prague to Paris was luxurious and my mistress fed me with tit-bits from the restaurant-car in addition to my dry biscuits and water. Now, whenever the train stopped, I asked my mistress to take me out even in the middle of the night. My master was cross when he saw us on the station platforms in our night clothes.

When we arrived at the station in Paris I lost my head, for, seeing some pigeons feeding on the lines a few platforms away, I gave chase in order to get some exercise—I did not understand the dangers then of moving trains. My master and mistress were furious and took some time to forgive me for this waywardness. I was contrite, but only for a time, for a feathered hat on the head of a Frenchwoman who was looking out of a carriage window caught my attention. I thought it was a hen and barked my head off until my mistress's correction brought me to order. At the Embassy in Paris no one seemed to worry about me, so seeing my basket in a corner I curled up in it and went to sleep. At lunch I was told that I had behaved well, so was taken on an expedition to the Tuileries Gardens, where I saw French poodles for the first time in my life. I told them what I thought of their absurd fashions with bows on their heads and their coats cut on such weird lines. Their fur would not keep them warm in cold weather, so they had to wear coats. That evening I was taken to a cocktail party and told to behave myself in the garden. All went well, but suddenly I found a cat and so had to give it a run for its money. I was severely reprimanded and tied up until we left by the night train ferry service for England.

That night I realised that all was not well with my mistress, as she kept cuddling me and talking to me. I soon knew the cause of her dismay, for in the morning when we reached

Dover and I was curled up in my basket, I heard a man asking for me by name. I was led out of the train and a man wearing rubber gloves pushed me unceremoniously into a wooden crate marked "In Quarantine for Rabies." The dark interior looked very forbidding and it was the first time that I realised that there is such a thing as a kennel where a dog lives by itself. I was very worried. After what seemed a very long time I was taken out of the crate and put into a dog run with bars, with many other dogs around me barking and howling, though they were invisible. There I slept on hay for the first time, but luckily I still had my sleeping-bag and warm coat which was a privilege in keeping with my class and lineage.

After a fortnight in the quarantine kennels, I recognised the footsteps of my mistress coming down the corridor. The door opened and there she was. I could not understand why she stood playing with me and did not take me away. Then she gave me a bone and I was so busy with it—such a delicacy after the normal dog's diet—that I did not see her slip out of the kennel. After this she came to see me once a week and when she gave me the bone I knew that she was about to leave. But I felt that I had not been forgotten and the days passed more quickly with the prospect of the meeting and the bone.

Suddenly the visits stopped and I could not imagine what had happened. Then I found myself again in a wooden crate in a train. The lid was taken off and I was on board a ship at sea. The trip was enjoyable, for my bedroom was in the captain's cabin and not in the kennel. I was on the bridge the whole time and saw everything. But the captain was severe about our food and no tit-bits from the galley were allowed. The weather became hotter and soon we were approaching a beautiful harbour. Before we were even tied up, I heard my mistress's voice asking whether I was on board. It was a great surprise to see her again in another land. I was taken off the ship and I felt so important with seals tied round my neck and documents about me being examined and signed by the highest authorities in the harbour.

My new home is wonderful. It lies on a golf-course and I can stretch my legs again at last. Moreover, I have learnt how to hunt new animals. My first experience was a land crab, whose claw got attached to my ear. After that I learnt wisdom and killed them by first pulling off the legs and then throwing them over my head. My record bag up to date is 14 in one day. I found it unpopular to chase the cat from the Canadian Embassy next door, so restricted my activities to the wild variety. I fear that I have bitten off the tails of most of the house lizards. Frogs make me very sick. Bird-nesting and bat-hunting I find enjoyable, but it is not popular with my mistress. I have taken part in some good rat-hunts in the house and have even attacked a mongoose, but unfortunately it caught hold of my nose and I was taken away on the spot for an anti-rabies injection. I am more careful now. When I see a tarantula, a scorpion or a snake, I bark for help.

Jeannie, the cocker spaniel, was with me in Bucharest and participated in all my joys and sorrows, but I do not like her, so I have told you nothing about her life. Now to my joy, my mistress has given her away to a kind English family. She strayed too much and it was too expensive paying the tips for her to be brought back. So now I am alone in sole control of the house and am a spoilt and happy dog. But I dread even now the sight of luggage. However, I know that I will never be left behind, for I have become one of the family.

I could tell you more about my life and experiences, but there is no time, as my dinner has just arrived and I am rather greedy.

A CAUSERIE ON BRIDGE

PURPLE PATCHES

By M. HARRISON-GRAY

AS we go into the New Year, the topic of the hour is the modern design for bidding. Are we trying to catch up on the sur-realist Italian Marmic and American Minimum-Bid theories? Will the sanity of the average player prevail against the extreme views of a handful of experts?

Few will disagree with the opinion expressed below by Jack Marx, co-inventor of Acot with the late S. J. Simon: "The main fabric of the system has held together quite intact over a long period of years. Now a number of rents have appeared and have been darned together with patches mostly of unmistakable American colour."

I have to refer again, as Marx does, to Terence Reese's latest work, *Modern Bidding and the Acot System*, because there is no comparable mine of material to illustrate my arguments. Much of his teaching is excellent and will be touched on in due course. Reese serves his public well by debunking the super-scientists, but has substituted a general style that departs all along the line from natural Bridge as we understand it. He makes no secret of a return to his first love, which accounts for a crazy quiltwork of American patches.

Possibly the most important (and fallacious) of the recommended changes concerns the response in a new suit at the level of Two. Lacking a long and powerful suit, the minimum is now put at nine points; it is clear from practical examples that a response of One No-Trump is considered correct on a balanced 10-point hand. The same response, according to the book, should be made over One Heart on this hand:

♠ Q 6 ♥ 4 ♦ A J 9 8 5 3 ♣ 7 6 4 2

One No-Trump, therefore, can mean a balanced hand with the absurdly wide range of 6-10 points, or a hand with a 6-4-2-1 suit pattern which scarcely conforms to our idea of a No-Trump response!

This strengthening of the suit response at the Two level is one of the worst and most illogical features of the American style, for it overlooks what Simon defined as "the comparative frequency of occurrence." For the sake of the odd case where there is some nebulous advantage in keeping a call "up to strength" (a phrase used again and again in Reese's book), the responder is constantly barred from making the natural Bridge bid. He can no longer name the one suit where his hand is likely to take tricks or which contains the bulk of his high card points; alternatively, he is reduced to a preposterous pass over an opponent's intervening bid.

Consider this problem in the American *Bridge World* (November, 1952):

♠ 9 5 ♥ Q 6 ♦ A J 6 5 3 ♣ A 7 4 2

South's hand. North opens One Spade with both sides vulnerable and East bids Two Hearts. What should South say?

The 25 members of the expert panel voted as follows: eleven for Three Diamonds (100), seven for a pass (70), six for a double (70) and one for Two Spades (10)—the figures in parentheses indicate the official scale of awards.

The eleven experts who supported the natural bid, which seems automatic after a vulnerable opening by the partner, offended the official adjudicator. He was "a little surprised to find that so many experts barged ahead with a forcing bid (Three Diamonds) that might prove embarrassing to their own side." It might be even more embarrassing, I would suggest, if North-South lost a lay-down game through South's passing or if East made his contract of Two Hearts doubled. The solitary vote for Two Spades came from Stayman, the leading American scientist.

As for the enormous majority of non-expert solvers who submitted Three Diamonds as their answer, they were rewarded with a mere 100 to 70 advantage over those who preferred a truly remarkable pass.

The reason for the weird assortment of

expert votes is clear enough. Had East passed over One Spade, the South hand would represent a minimum American-style response at the Two level, so a Diamond call at the higher level was rejected by no fewer than fourteen of the experts. There is no guarantee, of course, that North-South will land on their feet if South does say Three Diamonds; but those who anticipate the worst in every conceivable situation should give up playing Bridge. One thing is quite certain—a pass or a double will lose infinitely more in the long run than the natural bid on a hand such as South's.

The practical difficulties created by the new doctrine are seen in a selection of hands from the two Anglo-Austrian matches in the recent European championships.

West ♠ 10 6 ♥ K J 9 8 5 ♦ A K J ♣ Q 6 5 East ♠ 8 7 5 ♥ 2 ♦ 10 9 7 5 3 2 ♣ A K 9

Dealer, South. North-South vulnerable.

Room 1 (Britain East-West)—West opened One Heart and East bid One No-Trump (too weak under the new method to suggest where his playing strength lay). West, for no good reason, went back to Hearts—one down. Room 2—North bid One Spade over the Austrian West's One Heart, but East still made his natural call and a final contract of Four Diamonds was made with an overtrick. British loss—3 match points.

West ♠ A 10 7 ♥ J 9 4 3 ♦ A 10 9 7 5 ♣ 9 East ♠ J 9 6 5 ♥ 2 ♦ J 6 ♣ K Q 10 7 4 2

Dealer, East. Both sides vulnerable.

Room 1 (Austria East-West)—With the opponents silent, our North-South pair bid and made Four Hearts. Room 2—West picked the right moment for a tactical third-hand bid of One Diamond. North bid One Heart and East passed (too weak for Two Clubs, in spite of his original pass). The Austrians might have stopped short of game, but over Three Hearts East

found a few cards that he had apparently overlooked. His Four Clubs was doubled for a penalty of 1,100. British loss—5 match points.

West ♠ 10 2 ♥ K Q 10 8 6 ♦ K 8 ♣ 10 7 4 3 East ♠ K 9 4 ♥ 7 4 ♦ 7 6 5 2 ♣ K Q J 9

Dealer, East. Both sides vulnerable.

Room 1 (Austria East-West)—Our South player made ten tricks in a contract of One Spade. Room 2—West opened with a risky third-hand bid of One Heart, North passed, and East bid One No-Trump (modern theory prohibited the normal bid of Two Clubs which would have kept his side out of trouble). West went back to Two Hearts and was doubled by North for a penalty of 800. British loss—6 match points.

West ♠ Q 9 6 3 2 ♥ A K 8 2 ♦ J 9 ♣ A Q East ♠ A K 4 ♥ 10 7 ♦ A 10 8 7 5 4 ♣ J 4

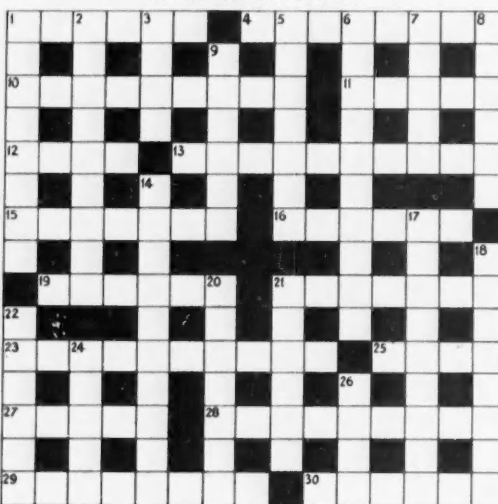
Dealer, South. East-West vulnerable.

Room 1 (Austria East-West)—Five Diamonds was bid and made. Room 2—West bid One Spade and East Two Diamonds. Reese maintains that a rebid of Two No-Trumps in this situation must be "kept up to strength," the standard as before being 15-17 points, but the pair in question work on a different theory—since the response at the Two level normally shows 10 points, West is allowed to rebid Two No-Trumps after opening on 13. As he actually had 16, he felt logically entitled to jump to Three No-Trumps.

East, having something in reserve, bid Five Spades. West, having nothing in reserve, bid Six. The play took an excruciating turn and he ended up four down. British loss—8 match points. In this case the punishment was out of all proportion. By whatever method it was reached, Six Spades was as good a contract as the Austrians' Five Diamonds, which could and should have been defeated at the other table.

CROSSWORD No. 1195

COUNTRY LIFE books to the value of 3 guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 1195, COUNTRY LIFE, 2, 10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than the first post on the morning of Wednesday, January 7, 1953.



Name.....
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SOLUTION TO No. 1194. The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of December 26, will be announced next week.

ACROSS.—1, British freedom; 8, Flagon; 9, Lapwing; 12, Ruth; 13, Redcurrant; 15, Tidal; 16, Stockman; 17, Gay; 18, Soldier; 20, Storm; 22, Antagonist; 24, Saki; 26, Ipswich; 27, Acacia; 28, Northumberland.

DOWN.—2, Related; 3, Tugs; 4, Sender; 5, Felicity; 6, Empiricism; 7, Might and main; 10, In arm; 11, Protestation; 14, Flying fish; 16, Say; 17, Grantham; 19, Lotus; 21, Oration; 22, Estate; 25, Hail.

ACROSS

1. Non-political kind of deviation (6)
4. Automobile swiftly following (8)
10. Its upper protection is the last one (9)
11. *Honi soit qui mal y pense* (5)
12. Inventor in or out (4)
13. Giving up smoking be instance of it (10)
15. No longer separated, if due in for refit (7)
16. Not necessarily an easy one for the artist (6)
19. Into the river he goes with broken mast (6)
21. Put in to do the job (7)
23. Inspired forecast, perhaps (10)
25. Green prize (4)
27. "Has this — appeared again to-night?" —Shakespeare (5)
28. One strove (anagr.) (9)
29. No absentee (8)
30. National vegetables (6)

DOWN

1. It had an overwhelming effect in the days of Nero (8)
2. Place with naval associations whence rig may be obtained (9)
3. Doubtless under a triumvirate the one of three to be observed (4)
5. The trusty friend (7)
6. Cannon fodder (10)
7. Historian to be guided by (5)
8. What Be-sy Surtees did with a future Lord Chancellor (6)
9. "And thou art long, and lank, and brown, "As is the — sea sand" —Coleridge (6)
14. Maimed nags may have been this (by their riders) (10)
17. Acted as interpreter (9)
18. "A countenance in which did meet "Sweet records, — as sweet" —Wordsworth (8)
20. A tennis-player who may still have the chance of picking one up (3, 4)
21. An admiral to supply the hat for the parson (6)
22. If he were made to ride, would it be down Fleet Street? (6)
24. Either in marble or in the flesh (5)
26. Put away before market in town (4)

NOTE.—This Competition does not apply to the United States.

The winner of Crossword No. 1193 is
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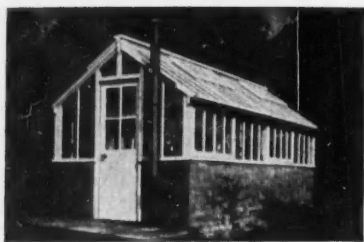
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THE ESTATE MARKET

SITTING ON THE FENCE

IN his annual review of the property market, a summary of which was given in these columns last week, Mr. Norman T. Hodgkinson (Messrs. Bidwell and Sons), described 1952 as a year of hesitation. Mr. Hodgkinson is not alone in his appraisal of prevailing trends, for his findings are confirmed and in some cases amplified by a report from Messrs. Rikeard, Green and Michelmore, who carry on an extensive business in the south-western counties and who describe the overall attitude of both buyers and sellers as one of "sitting on the fence."

WIDENING GAP IN PRICES

THE factors responsible for this policy, they write, have been many and varied. The first half of the year was deeply influenced by the raising of the bank rate and by the continued tightening of purse-strings by lenders and borrowers, investors and speculators, and, above all, by those seeking properties for their own occupation. Moreover, the Government's pledge to step up the housing drive made most purchasers reluctant to pay the high prices asked by owners of residential property, and it was in the market for houses, especially for older houses, where the swing from the inflated post-war values was most marked. Admittedly a more realistic appreciation of market trends had been shown by some vendors; nevertheless, although prices asked and offered both dropped, those offered fell the more, with the result that the gap was constantly widening. "Moreover," says the report, "it is our opinion that this process has at least another year or eighteen months to run before we shall be able to report that equilibrium has been restored."

Evidence of how wide is the gap between the prices asked by vendors and those that buyers are prepared to pay has been forthcoming from auction sales where, says the report, an increasing number of properties were withdrawn owing to failure to reach the reserve and, on occasions, to a complete lack of bidding even for properties justifiably classed as "saleable" and for which modest prices had been fixed.

FARM VALUES DOWN BY 20 PER CENT.

SO far as individual types of properties are concerned, the apparent demand for both residential and commercial farms was good until towards the end of the year, but in spite of the demand actual sales declined appreciably. Larger farms, with the exception of those that had exceptional amenities or where the land was unusually good, dropped up to 20 per cent. on the best of 1951 prices and smaller ones dropped up to 15 per cent.

An even greater decline was that in the prices of residential properties; for example, larger country houses frequently fell back to 1939 figures and in some cases even dropped below that level. Exceptions were estates with woodlands and/or agricultural land, but even these sold at slightly lower prices than last year, and less readily. All other residential properties continued to decline in value to varying degrees, the least affected being the good-class three-five bedroomed detached country houses. In Exeter itself, where Messrs. Rikeard, Green and Michelmore have their offices, large houses and those in the higher price groups have been progressively difficult to sell. Detached, semi-detached and terrace houses in and near the city have still found buyers where possession could be given, though at considerably lower prices.

The decline in the number of sales and, where sales took place, the lower prices obtained are likely to continue well into 1954, ends the report, though it suggests that the end

of this year will see the pendulum swinging less widely.

£40,000 FOR HAMPSHIRE FARMS

IN spite of the fall in prices—in itself no bad thing, since for some time prices have been out of all proportion to the true value of the properties sold—sales continued right up to the end of the year. One of the last reported was that of 709 acres of farm land in the Wallops district of Hampshire which had been submitted to auction as long ago as the middle of October by Messrs. Bernard Thorpe and Partners. This auction had been only partly successful, for of the three lots offered only one, a farm of 124 acres, was sold. However, the remainder of the property has since changed hands privately and it is understood that the total realised by the sales is in the neighbourhood of £40,000.

Another Hampshire property that has changed hands recently is Hellycombe, a stone-built house with 217 acres at Liphook, which Harrods Estate Offices and Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley have sold privately on behalf of Lord Selsdon.

THE BROMPTON ESTATE

THE first important sale scheduled for 1953—in point of fact the property is already open to private offers—is that of Sir Kenelm Cayley's Brompton estate, which extends to roughly 1,500 acres near Scarborough, Yorkshire, and includes seven farms ranging from 109 to 396 acres and most of the village of Brompton.

Brompton has been the home of the Cayleys since the 17th century, and the family took over the village about 1690. There they have always had their own pew in the little church where Wordsworth was married, and their names appear frequently on the Roll of Honour. Sir Kenelm, the 10th baronet and present owner of Brompton, has spent about £100,000 on the property since his return from the first World War, and of this sum approximately £40,000 has gone on repairs and improvements to the 30-odd cottages in the village, most of which are occupied by tenants of long standing, who enjoy hot water in sculleries and bathrooms, main drainage and electric light. The sale has been entrusted to Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley and Messrs. J. Cundall and Sons, who will submit the estate to auction in the spring unless it is sold meanwhile.

LEEZ PRIORY TO LET

A TENANT is sought for Leez Priory, Felstead, Essex. The original house on the site was built around 1537 by Sir Richard Rich (afterwards Baron Rich) on the foundations of a priory conferred on him a year or two earlier by Henry VIII. In 1753 the property was acquired by the Governors of Guy's Hospital, and soon afterwards the bulk of the mansion was demolished and what was left became a farm-house. It was restored early in the present century by Mr. M. E. Hughes-Hughes and to-day it comprises a small country house, the original gatehouse, a cottage, garage and stables standing in 11 acres. Messrs. Hampton and Sons are the agents.

Another house with ecclesiastical associations is Dene Manor, Meopham, Kent, which has been sold privately by Messrs. Jackson-Stops and Staff's London office and Messrs. H. and R. L. Cobb, of Maidstone. It was built about 1670 on the site of an earlier house believed to have been the birth-place of Simon de Meopham, Archbishop of Canterbury, in the 13th century, who was famous for his stand against the Church of Rome. Thirty-six acres went with the house. **PROCURATOR.**

FARMING NOTES

CALF SUBSIDIES

FARMERS have different ideas about the type and quality of calves that should be approved for the £5 subsidy which is intended to encourage the rearing of calves suitable for beef production. No doubt the Ministry of Agriculture has tried to help everyone as far as possible, but the present scheme, now passed by Parliament, is a strange mix-up and cannot be at all easy to administer. It would have been much more straightforward to limit the £5 subsidy to steer calves intended for beef production. I realise that this would cut out heifer calves and that many people prefer to feed heifers rather than steers. But the main purpose of the subsidy surely is to save from premature slaughter the male calves born in the dairy herds. In true beef herds the best of the heifer calves are reared anyway as breeding replacements, either for the farm where they are bred or for sale to other farms. The subsidy ought to be given to every male calf that is likely to make a reasonably good beef beast. Remembering that the subsidy comes off the final beef price paid for all beasts, it is right that the subsidy should be paid without too much discrimination. I hope that this subsidy will not anyway have to have a long run. It should be obvious to all farmers that beef production will pay for some years to come, and if a fair price is paid for the final fat beast the rearer will get a satisfactory price when he sells to the feeder. These production grants are part and parcel of the welfare state mentality and after all farming is a business.

Stunning Pigs

THE Universities Federation for Animal Welfare in its annual report refers to research work done by Dr. Phyllis Croft at the Neuropsychiatric Research Centre at Cardiff. Dr. Croft has been working particularly on the electric stunning of pigs, and she has reached the conclusion that a shock applied to the head can produce genuine anaesthesia for about 60 seconds. In genuine anaesthesia the animal should get what is known as an electroplectic fit, but a pig recovers consciousness about 60 seconds after a satisfactory shock has been given and may then, for about 30 seconds, be sensitive to pain but paralysed. This new knowledge carries us a stage further in humane slaughter.

Heavy Horse Teams

ONE of the attractive features of the Royal Show has for many years been the competition in the grand ring for four-in-hand coaching teams, but this feature disappeared last year. It is good to hear from the R.A.S.E. that we shall see coaching teams again at Blackpool this year. To encourage entries of heavy horse teams, farmer-exhibitors will be given a subsidy of £5 an animal towards the cost of exhibiting. This grant will be paid only once for each animal, although it may compete in different classes. It is, I suppose, a mark of progress in mechanisation that horse teams have become so rare that the Society has to treat them as a spectacle like the musical ride in the main ring. We all like to see horses brought out to perfection, even though we may not keep them on our own farms.

Farm Disposessions

MR. G. R. H. NUGENT, the joint Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Agriculture, has given the Guild of Agriculture Journalists some facts about the dispossession of bad farmers. Since the passing of the Agriculture Act in 1947 there have been on average little over 50 a year out of a total of 350,000 holdings in the country. Cases of this kind may unfortunately involve hardship for the

farmer who is dispossessed. Mr. Nugent said something timely to the agricultural journalists:—"The farmers and farm-workers who are members of the county committee concerned are naturally very disturbed by the suggestion that they have behaved in an inhuman and ogish manner, and the farming community who know the details of the case are given the impression that public opinion would not worry about the sub-standard level of production on the farm concerned. Statistics of world food production would make no appeal as a counter-balance to the human sympathy for the farmer concerned, but I do say that the hardship and suffering of those who are short of food or starving would arouse human sympathy even greater than that aroused for the dispossessed farmer."

Right of Appeal

IT is well to have stated plainly that the Agriculture Act does give the farmer threatened with dispossession on account of bad husbandry the right of an appeal to an independent tribunal. This is heard in public and the farmer can be represented by counsel if he so wishes. The idea that a man can be dispossessed of his farm without a fair and independent safeguard is a distortion of the facts. If the Agriculture Act with the guarantees of markets and prices is to be retained, there must be some provision for getting rid of the persistently bad farmer who will not take advice. If there is a better way than the 1947 Act provides, it is for the farming organisations to tell the Minister how they think the present machinery can be improved. We shall never arrive at a perfect procedure for dealing with cases of bad husbandry, but this does not mean that the farming community can afford to ignore them.

Cow Management

VISCOUNT HUDSON told the guests at the B.O.C.M. milk yield and butter fat competition luncheon that it is the small man on the family farm who should produce the high yields and not the big man. He can or should give the personal attention to each individual cow that makes all the difference to her comfort and consequently to her daily yield. However good the head cowman in charge of a large herd he cannot look after in detail more than a limited number of milking cattle. Lord Hudson wants small dairy farmers everywhere to be persuaded that it is much more economical in cash to produce 50 gallons a day from 10 cows rather than this gallonage from 25 cows. The chairman of the British Oil and Cake Mills, Mr. Guy Chipperfield, took the opportunity to stress that while much is heard about self-sufficiency the majority of milk producers farm 100 acres or less, and total reliance on home-grown fodder would soon lead to self-extinction, falling milk yields and depletion of soil fertility.

Bacon Pig Bonus

FROM January 12 pigs sent to the bacon factories will be paid for on weight and grade if they come within the range of 7 score 1 lb. to 9 score 5 lb. The standard price will still be 52s. 11d. a score, but those that measure up to the bacon curer's ideal will earn a 4s. 5d. quality premium. This will be worth having. An 8 score pig will make an extra 35s. 4d. I am told, however, that we must not imagine that because we have had a high proportion of pigs marked A under the educational grading scheme in recent months we shall earn the full quality bonus on so many when it comes to cash. There are, however, to be smaller premiums for those pigs that are not quite perfect.

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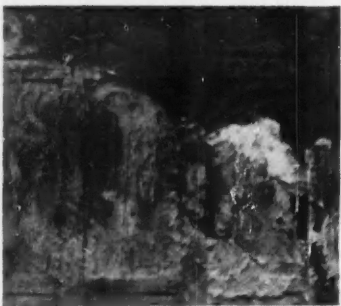
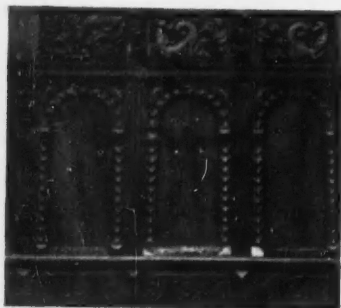
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NEW BOOKS

LIFE OF THE RIVER

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

MR. FRANK SAWYER is head keeper of the Officers' Fishing Association. Their water is on the Wiltshire Avon, and beside that river Mr. Sawyer has spent all his life. He was born in a house on its banks. He has known its moods in all seasons of the year, and watched the ways of the fish in it, and the waterfowl upon it, the animals who live near it and sometimes venture into it, the flies that hatch and hover and die there, the herons that strike, the kingfishers that dip, the plant growths that help the water and those that hinder. He has known the place

Mr. Sawyer a lot of work. There was a time when the meadows of the Upper Avon were irrigated by drains, tended by workers called drowners. "Their beds were bright and gravelly, and this fact was greatly appreciated by the trout, which during winter ran up these side-streams to spawn. It was here that, later, the trout fry found a food supply that was plentiful and sustaining until such time as they were big enough to drift downstream and live in the main river." Now the drains are gone. There are fewer trout and less insect life, and pumping stations, moreover, take water from

KEEPER OF THE STREAM. By Frank Sawyer
(Black, 18s.)

THEY CAME TO THE HILLS. By Claire Eliane Engel
(Allen and Unwin, 21s.)

FAR HAVE I TRAVELLED. By Dorothy Wellesley
(Barrie, 16s.)

in flood and in drought, and his business now is to breed trout and to do all that is humanly possible to see that conditions in and about the water are such that the fish will have a chance to grow and eventually attach themselves to hooks.

FISH AND SHADOWS

It must be a lovely life for one who likes it, and no one will be able to read Mr. Sawyer's book *Keeper of the Stream* (A. and C. Black, 18s.) without feeling that he likes it so much that he wouldn't sell a day by the river for the Grand Cham's diamond. He has been associated with this river for so long that it appears to have entered into his being. He is not only aware of what is under his eye but capable of speculation. One day he was fishing and a trout was about to take the nymph when the shadow of a rook fell on the water. Instantly, the trout disappeared. He began to reflect on this. He had seen the shadow of an aeroplane travelling over the water scare every trout in a quarter of a mile and every other sort of fish dart for safety at a shadow. He came to the conclusion that "the alarm must be caused by some inherent instinct still prevailing . . . that a shadow stirs quickly a memory of winged terrors of a bygone age." To-day, only the kingfisher and the heron survive as predators on this water, "but perhaps many years ago this trout stream was the hunting ground of other winged predatory creatures which are now extinct."

Perhaps, he speculates, the habits of the kingfisher have not changed throughout the ages, but what of the heron? Now, the heron is a wader, but Mr. Sawyer has seen him use a fishing method "which at one time might have been a chief one." He has seen the heron "fly upstream just clear of the water and drop suddenly as the prey is sighted. Legs and beak strike the water together, and with a downward thrust of the feet the bird lifts himself clear of the water with . . . the fish impaled on his beak."

The neglect of old habits gives

the river. Then there are alder and withy-beds. An old "drowner" of the author's acquaintance estimates that each tree throughout spring and summer extracts a gallon or more of water a day. "There are," says Mr. Sawyer, "more than 1,000,000 withy and alder trees in six miles of the valley I know so well. . . . So approximately 1,000,000 gallons of water is being extracted each day from the low-lying ground—from the supply which otherwise would bubble up in springs to feed the river." These are all matters which a keeper of the water must think about, and, though Mr. Sawyer likes to see alders and withies on the banks, he wonders whether there are not too many.

FEEDING TROUT FRY

Yes, indeed, there are plenty of things for a keeper to think about. He has to make and supervise his own hatchery, strip eggs from female trout into it, see that the male's milt does its part, transfer the fry into a stew, see that this is so constructed that the appropriate midge lays its eggs there, and that these eggs have turned into the larvae on which the fry feed, then introduce other larvae which the fry need later. This method has been a great success. The larvae have now established themselves. "I have thoroughly tested this method of feeding trout fry for the first three months, over a number of years on a small scale, and have experienced no loss whatever."

Though he is successful with these methods, Mr. Sawyer would prefer not to have to use them, but pure streams are becoming fewer. In impure streams he has examined trout eggs and found that not one in a thousand was likely to hatch. He would like to have the pure streams back, with the trout doing their own job in their own way. "Man can assist, but can never command."

Even those who are not fishermen will find this book most readable through and through. Involved in the life of fish—as in the life of every living creature—are earth, air and



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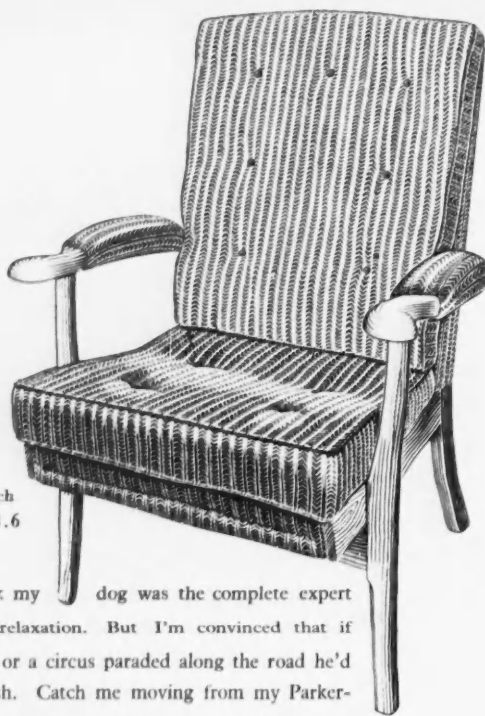
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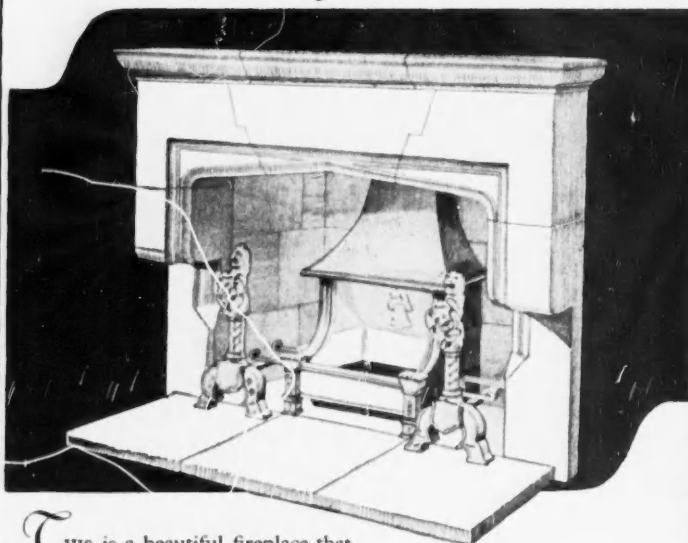
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REVIEWS by HOWARD SPRING—continued

water, and all that exists thereon and therein. Mr. Sawyer has a thorough understanding of this ecological fact, this hanging-togetherness of everything, and it gives a rare quality to his book. Both he and Sir Grimwood Mears, who urged him to write, have earned our thanks.

MOUNTAINS AND THEIR CLIMBERS

Claire Eliane Engel, in *They Came to the Hills* (Allen and Unwin, 21s.) says "my book is an attempt at discerning and explaining the reason why, at different times, men and women have indulged in the same recreation and have eventually proved to be kindred spirits." Even if we cannot feel that much in common—beyond a disposition to quarrel, in person or in print—has been established among them, we can read with great pleasure these brief accounts of the lives and doings of famous mountaineers from de Saussure to Mallory and F. S. Smythe.

"Mountains have a peace of their own, but mountaineers have not." They could pick a quarrel as neatly as the most polished master of punctilio. Ruskin appears to have hated them all. The mountains were "cathedrals" and he didn't like to see "acrobats" defiling them by climbing about on them as if they were greasy poles. Leslie Stephen got one back on that by writing of the joy of lighting a pipe on a peak, knowing that the very mention of tobacco made Ruskin livid. But the mountaineers themselves found plenty to brawl about. D. W. Freshfield disliked the new school of die-hards, as he called them, who didn't follow "the right way up a peak." They seemed to look for danger, and one could "hardly afford to view without protest the degradation of a noble sport by the freaks of a relatively small band of gymnasts who in the last resource will assail the mountains with the instruments of road-breakers."

Then there was the old question of the "why" of it all. The geologists, glaciologists, historians and geographers were shocked by climbers who cared nothing for the academic approach, and thought a mountain something to be climbed for the sake of climbing it. And even here there was division of opinion. Should one always try new things, always want to be the first to do this or that? And there was W. A. B. Coolidge, American born but an Oxford don, who "usually succeeded in making himself extremely unpleasant to his enemies." I am often amused by the extraordinary rancour with which, in a gardening journal where one would expect the profoundest herbaceous tranquillity, passion will spring up on such a matter as the correct way to kill dandelions; but these battles of spud and hoe are nothing to those of rope and ice-axe.

MIXED MOTIVES

However, this idiosyncrasy of climbers is only a thread running through a record of heartening achievement. Miss Engel is to be praised for the way she has made the men and the record live. The looker-on from the side-lines sees at any rate this: that, whatever the motives of the mountaineers—which I imagine to be as mixed as other motives—the endeavour entails an ardour, a disregard of self, however careful the climber may be, and, in the last resort, a willingness to give life itself to the game, that invests the enterprise with

nobility and magnificence. Too many climbers have lost their lives for us to forget that loss of life is a possibility every climber must accept. That is equally true, of course, of a man working in a coalmine, or serving in a submarine, or doing one of many things. The sublimity of the conditions in which the mountaineer does his particular thing brings a reward, if he comes through, that is denied these others; but that is no reason why we should deny him our admiration. It invests him with some of the splendour of the conditions amid which he works: that is something Miss Engel brings out well in her book.

FINDING FULFILMENT

Far Have I Travelled, by Dorothy Wellesley (James Barrie, 16s.) "is not," says the publisher, "the autobiography of the Duchess of Wellington." I should imagine, indeed, that the last thing the author wanted was to write such an autobiography. She is a poet in her own right, and this is essentially the story of that side of her life. Against the other side she rebelled early. Writing of a visit to Oberammergau when young, she says: "The simplicity of life attracted me. I had left Lumley Castle and a Palladian Sandbeck and the rows of idle dunkeys behind me. Deep rebellion against this way of life had already set in."

We are given an account of this way of life, both during the lifetime of the author's father and, after that, when her mother took Lord Scarborough as her second husband. But Dorothy Wellesley increasingly found herself unsatisfied, and, at the end of her first London season "I was cured once and for ever of this kind of life, and told my parents I could not do any more London seasons."

The outbreak of the first World War found her married and living in Constantinople. She removed to Rome and spent the war years there; and once back in England she was soon in the *milieu* that her mind had always craved. She came to know the writers of her time; she wrote herself; she found the fulfilment that she had been aware of needing ever since the vague dissatisfactions of girlhood. And so, though the author has travelled a good deal about this material earth, the title must not be taken too literally. There is a sense in which her travels may not be measured in mileage, and it is with this that the book is essentially concerned.

THE SMALLER HOUSE

THERE have been many books tracing the development of English domestic architecture, so that in applying that treatment to *The Smaller English House, 1500 to 1939* (Batsford, 42s.), Mr. Reginald Turner covers ground well trodden before. In ranging over four and a half centuries, he takes the reader a long way and shows him houses of many styles, shapes and materials; the tour is agreeable, if rather exacting, and it is conducted by an amiable guide who knows his subject well but seldom ventures to go beyond what has been said by other writers, who are freely quoted. No very clearly defined limits have been set, and as town houses are not excluded, one finds that views of Georgian and Regency crescents and terraces are admitted. In a book less discursive and better planned the town house might have been given a section to itself. There are nearly two hundred illustrations, among which a fair proportion of unfamiliar examples have been chosen.

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The aim of the hand-knitters seems to be to create a surface that looks as much like a fabric as is possible. Similarly, the big attraction claimed for many materials is that they look hand-knitted. Certainly the many close basket and broken fancy strips among the fashionable knitting designs are most attractive and closely resemble a firm tweed. They are so firm and taut, cut out like cloth, that the dresses and suits do not seat out at all, and they wash easily and well. Some of the dresses, especially designed for air travel, weigh no more than three and a half ounces, and as they are creaseless they are an



A beige tweed suit that looks knitted. It is creaseless with a flat unlined collar, revers stitched firmly on the edges and round wooden buttons. The neat, waisted jacket has the cut-away basque that is being featured for spring. Harrods

Photographs by COUNTRY LIFE Studio



(Left, above) A high-necked hand-knit sweater with winged three-quarter sleeves, pointed rib collar, rib welt and cuffs. On the left, an evening cardigan in beige wool hand-knitted in a twisted rib pattern with a gold and blue thread and a pearl drop knitted in at intervals. Note the mandarin collar and sleeve length. The beehive cap (above) is crocheted in thick wool in a complicated broken rib that rises in ridges. Women's Home Industries

admirable proposition for anybody travelling light.

The Women's Home Industries have evolved several patterns that make up charmingly. A plain dress in a mixture of moss stitch and stocking stitch has radiating gores from the waist that fall in rippling folds at the hem, as the vertical bands are worked alternately in each stitch. This has a wide crossover shawl collar in moss stitch, and it is stocked by Fortnum and Mason. Another dress, extremely light, is in a semi-sheer feather design. Others have their skirts entirely in vertical ribs so that they look accordion-pleated. Increases take place in the centre of each rib over the hipline so that the skirts are tapered to the waist and lie flat over the hips.

The plain hand-knit sweater in one-ply wool has made its appearance in fine close stocking stitch with a seam down the centre front and a zip fastening at the back. The sweater is so knitted that the rows converge on the centre seam, and it is as fine as silk and closely moulds the figure. The really thick ones are equally attractive; some have a ribbed polo neck and an elaborate design like a fisherman's sweater in a mixture of fancy rib and cable stitch. For ski-ing there is a wool sweater all in narrow rib with a deep dolman sleeve and a high collar attached to a little inset vest. This contracts over the midriff so that it clings to the figure. A simple wool batwing sweater for tweeds is knitted in stocking stitch with a ribbed



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Thick wool sports cardigan with patch pockets and roll collar, worn with tartan cloth stove-pipe trousers in dark mixed colours. Jaeger



Two sweaters in fine wool jersey featuring new lines. (Above) A high-necked design with long plain raglan sleeves. The one on the left shows the fashionable cowl collar in fine ribbing and three-quarter sleeves. Dorville

(Right) A reefer jacket in thick smooth wool worked in a broken fancy rib that is tailored like cloth. Two rows of round gold buttons fasten down the front. Fortnum and Mason

pointed collar on a neckband and ribbed cuffs on the three-quarter sleeves.

The woven twin-set has added small embellishments, whether it be in fine lamb's-wool, Shetland wool, or cashmere, or in a mixture. Tiny, neat serrated edges are put on to the necklines of the sweaters, or rows of cable are inserted on to horizontal yokes of both garments: sometimes the horizontal yokes are worked in plain and the rest is in the fine stocking stitch. The aim here is to have as fine, soft and warm a garment as possible to fit under a suit jacket. The high neck has proved immensely popular, so that the sweater emerges above the cardigan, sometimes as a mandarin collar, sometimes with a neat decoration of some kind. At Debenham and Freebody the ivory cashmere cardigans are decorated by a narrow band of openwork stitch that runs all the way round the neckline

and down both fronts. This cardigan would be charming on the Riviera with a white pleated skirt. The new Braemar twin-sets in lamb's-wool have a narrow band of contrasting colour inserted all down both fronts of the cardigan, which buttons on a horizontally ribbed band. Others feature the high-necked sweater, worked into a "necklace" of three flat bands that shows above a high-buttoning cardigan.

Sweaters designed for cocktail or tea parties, for dinner or evening wear, employ all kinds of yarns and mixtures, and are decorated as elaborately as a fancy evening blouse. Fine angora and cashmere sweaters have openwork yokes in a shell pattern, or in crochet flowers resembling guipure lace. Décolletés are as varied as those on an evening dress, and some are every bit as deep. A charming new design is in bouclé worked with gold and blue

or a hug-me-tight that is intended to slip over a dark plain frock to keep the shoulders warm to a hip-length reefer in thick wool and in a broken rib or basket stitch resembling a bouclé tweed.

Knitted hats of all shapes and sizes are the current craze, often with their own matching cravats, stoles, shawls or gloves. There are tasselled "fishermen's" hats in rib with brief matching scarves, caps in fine woollen jersey twisted into rabbits' ears or decorated with glycerined feathers that hang down like icicles. Caps ridged like a beehive or shaped into cones or acorns are crocheted in thick wool. Sometimes a ribbed tam that matches a jacket is slipped over a firm foundation so that it takes a muffin shape. Given any base which might be an old felt or straw beret, you can slip over different colours to match up to different outfits. For cocktail time, the same idea prevails. A tam, entirely crocheted in sequins or in silk or chenille mesh and sewn with sequins, slips over the same firm base. These can also be in different colours, and the beret can be worn either four-square on the brow or tipped back a trifle. Small cravats are embroidered with a spray of sequin flowers to match and decorate a plain silk cocktail suit with charm; or a sequined tam will be worn with a deep décolleté. Dior showed one such tam pulled well down over one ear; it was worn with a simple black taffeta cocktail dress that had a moulded bodice and narrow shoulder straps.

The white angora hats are very fetching. They have a crown that fits on the head and the rolled brim can be folded back as a halo. The whole hat is often sewn here and there with a gold or silver sequin. Others again are shaped like tams and worn pulled straight forward; or they may be attached to a satin or velvet headband and be pulled down over one ear.

Stoles in mohair or angora have become so large that they are almost as big as a travel rug. They are draped round the shoulders and are so light that they can be made into a cowl or shawl collar, the ends being tucked under the arm. For evening they are often lightly embroidered with sequins.

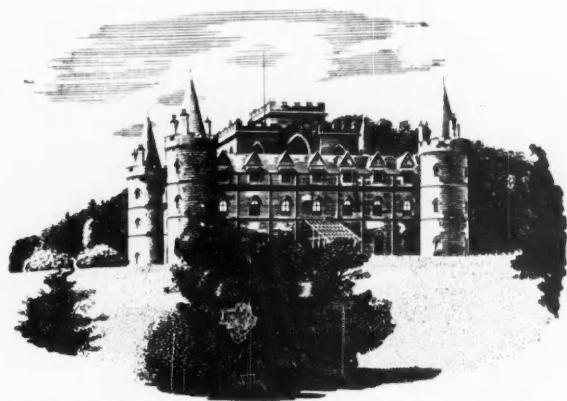
P. JOYCE REYNOLDS.

thread and a pearl dangle here and there. This buttons neatly down the front with more pearls and has a narrow mandarin collar. Another design in pure silk in a fine taut basket weave zips down the back and is worked here and there with jet on a jewel colour. Braemar are embroidering the fronts of their cashmere cardigans with sequin flowers and scrolls—cosy in a cold house and most decorative.

The jackets for sports are as varied as the sweaters. Every known shape appears, from a brief bolero



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